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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 7, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL MEUSER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Hear us, O Lord, and answer us. Hear the prayers of the hostages in Israel and the deported children of Ukraine. Answer the cries of parents separated from their little ones and of families grieving the loss of their loved ones.

Hear our prayers, Lord. Listen to our cries for mercy for the countless men and women, wherever they find themselves, who call to You this day in distress. Answer them. For You, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness.

Turn to Your people throughout the world whose relentless foes attack them from all sides. Condemn the ruthless people whose weapons are torment and injustice, whose only goals are pain and death.

Turn to all those who are broken by misery and overwhelmed by fear wherever they find themselves this day and have mercy on them. Show Your strength on behalf of those who call upon Your name, who cling with faith to the promise of Your salvation.

Give them a sign of Your goodness that their enemies may see it and be put to shame.

In You alone do they find help and hope and comfort. Hear us, O Lord, and answer us, for we pray in Your sovereign name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MOYLAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WATER CRISIS TORMENTING SOUTH TEXAS

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an urgent matter, the water crisis tormenting south Texas farmers and residents.

Our communities, bound by the Rio Grande, suffer as the Mexican Government delays the treaty-mandated water deliveries. This isn't merely an inconvenience. It is a threat to our

livelihood and is a national food security issue.

As planting season looms, our farmers face halved yields. Without immediate action, the ripple effects will be felt nationwide, meaning less produce on the shelves, soaring food prices, and heightened foreign dependence.

The House has already passed my bipartisan House resolution urging the Mexican Government to provide consistent, annual water deliveries as per our 1944 treaty. I ask the Biden administration to firmly advocate on behalf of our farmers and secure a reliable water future.

ABORTION CARE IS HEALTHCARE

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last month marked 51 years since Roe v. Wade was decided, holding a women's fundamental right to privacy in their medical decisions. Women had the right to abortion because abortion care is healthcare.

Legal abortions have saved countless women's lives. Yet, after rightwing extremists spent 50 years pushing misinformation on abortion, our Supreme Court did their bidding and stripped away the rights and freedoms of women nationwide.

The far-right Court claimed the Dobbs decision would simply send the choice back to the States. Instead, it sent our Nation into chaos—doctors unsure if they can help their patients, assault survivors unsure if they can go to the police, and women crossing State lines to save their own lives.

Like many of you, I am exhausted by politicians who claim to support women, support life, and then work to strip away access to contraception, fertility care, and gynecological health.

I am exhausted by the fact that my daughters-in-law and granddaughters

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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have fewer rights than I did. I am exhausted that Roe is gone.

Yet, we must not tire. No matter how long the fight, whether in this Congress or the next, we must restore a woman's right to legal abortion.

PREPARE NOW FOR ATTACKS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago, I issued a heartfelt warning for all families in America. This is bipartisan in that the terrorists consider all Americans as targets.

I had been excusing the irresponsible open borders as recruiting millions of low-information voters to perpetuate Democrat elitist power. Sadly, well-respected Members of Congress, last weekend, clarified open borders is purposeful insanity, putting American families at risk everywhere of murderous attacks.

With terrorists and millions of illegal aliens, more 9/11 attacks will lead to growth of government for elitist power. The "ends justifies the means" concentrates power in their worship of government run by elitists.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that all American families, having full gas tanks, should prepare now with an attack rally point when communications are cut. Families should have a pre-chosen refuge of safety to face the terrorists that are facing our country.

Most at risk of mass murder and starvation are the homebound and disabled elderly. There should be plans for their recovery.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who have protected America for 20 years in the global war on terrorism as it continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden open borders for terrorists. It is sadly clear that there will be more 9/11 attacks across America, as the FBI has indicated.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE O'NEILL'S ELECTION AS FIRST MINISTER OF NORTHERN IRELAND

(Mr. NEAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michelle O'Neill on her election to serve as First Minister of Northern Ireland, the first Irish nationalist leader in history to hold the seat, and also for the tone she set by pledging to be a leader for all the people of Northern Ireland.

After 2 years of delays and two successive elections in which the people made their voices heard, parties will once again sit in government and resume the difficult work of legislating.

The democratic institutions established by the Good Friday Agreement

have been critical in sustaining peace and prosperity on the island of Ireland. As a guarantor of that agreement, the United States has the indispensable role of continuing to uphold these principles of self-government, ensuring that progress made over the last years will continue into the future.

I have no doubt that the people of Ireland should be proud of these institutions, and I look forward to the realization of renewed stability with the return of a power-sharing government.

CELEBRATING 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF CALVO'S INSURANCE

(Mr. MOYLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 85th anniversary of Calvo's Insurance, a company that has been a pillar of support for thousands in my island community.

In 1938, Eduardo T. Calvo began selling fire and typhoon insurance out of his home. What began as a small part-time job has grown into the largest and oldest insurance provider on Guam.

This success is a true testament to Calvo's Insurance's unwavering commitment to serving the people of Guam. Their ability to provide comprehensive and affordable insurance has significantly benefited our community, and their growth over the decades has infused Guam's economy while creating new jobs.

As they celebrate this momentous occasion, I want to wish Calvo's Insurance continued success and prosperity in the years to come. May they continue to serve as a shining example of excellence in the insurance industry.

RECOGNIZING AMIRAM COOPER

(Ms. BALINT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to share the story of Amiram Cooper.

Amiram is 85, a husband, a father, a grandfather of nine, a composer, and a poet. His love for the arts and writing inspires everyone around him.

On October 7, he was 1 of more than 240 men, women, children, and elderly who were kidnapped by Hamas.

Amiram was one of the founders of Kibbutz Nir Oz, one of the sites of this horrible attack. This tight-knit community was left devastated by the brutality of that day.

Amiram and 135 others are still held captive in Gaza today. Their families continue to live a nightmare—devastated, not knowing what conditions their loved ones are in. It has been 123 days.

We must demand that medical and aid organizations be able to treat the hostages and negotiate on their behalf.

We must continue to do everything in our power to keep these hostages

and their families in our hearts and to keep telling their stories.

We must bring every single hostage home and end this violence.

RECOGNIZING 114TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is the 114th anniversary of the Boys Scouts of America, the Nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training.

On February 8, 1910, Chicago businessman William D. Boyce, who grew up in western Pennsylvania, incorporated the Boy Scouts of America. It later went on to be chartered by the U.S. Congress.

Since then, millions of young men and women have joined the Scouts and learned the values of patriotism, courage, and self-reliance.

I have been involved in Scouting for more than 50 years, including serving as a Scoutmaster and achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in 1977. Scouting helped me discover my life purpose: helping others.

I take the lessons learned throughout my own Scouting career and apply them in every aspect of my life today, including in my job as a U.S. Congressman.

As co-chair of the Congressional Scouting Caucus, I am proud to introduce a resolution, alongside my fellow Eagle Scout from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), designating tomorrow, February 8, as Boy Scouts of America Day, to honor the tireless service of Scout volunteers and participants in our communities.

In challenging times like now, I think we could all learn a lesson from the Scout slogan: "Do a Good Turn Daily."

CONDEMNING BIDEN'S ENERGY POLICIES

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Biden's disastrous energy policies that have hurt consumers with skyrocketing costs and jeopardized national security.

On day one, he launched a war on American energy by killing the Keystone pipeline. Most recently, he announced a pause on all pending natural gas permits and that he would no longer hold court-ordered offshore gas lease sales. These shortsighted decisions embolden adversaries in their aggression toward American allies who rely on U.S. energy.

Mr. Speaker, we must support commonsense measures, like those contained in the Lower Energy Costs Act, to restore American energy dominance,

lower costs for consumers, and protect our national security.

PROTECTING HEALTH CARE FOR ALL PATIENTS ACT OF 2023

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material in the RECORD on H.R. 485.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 996 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 485.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0915

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 485) to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs, with Mr. MEUSER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this section and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 485, my Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, which affirms every person's life has value by banning the use of quality-adjusted life years, or QALYs, and similar discriminatory measures from all Federal healthcare programs.

As many of you know, my son Cole was born with an extra 21st chromosome. Most of you know it as Down syndrome.

When Cole was born, the doctors gave us a long list of challenges and chances for heartache. It was difficult, but I could have never imagined just how positively he would impact my life, my family's life, and the world.

Today, Cole is a fun-loving 16-year-old with big dreams. He wants to be a football player, a pastor, and a race car driver. He is on the basketball team. He plays the drums. For Cole, the sky is the limit.

Cole and others with disabilities deserve every opportunity to succeed. We shouldn't be discounting their potential or prejudging the quality of their life just because of their disabilities.

Unfortunately, several tools frequently used in our healthcare system do just that. QALYs, and other similar discriminatory measures, assign a dollar value on the life of a patient to decide if a certain treatment is cost effective, oftentimes discounting an individual's worth and the need for care solely because of their disability or chronic illness.

It means a bureaucracy coldly determines the value of someone's life and could deny necessary healthcare due to that calculation.

Measurements like QALYs remove the consideration of unique circumstances and health conditions of a patient and their doctor's judgment from deciding what is best for the patient.

I am not alone in opposing the use of these measures.

Democrats acknowledged this when they passed the Affordable Care Act, and they banned the use of QALYs in Medicare.

In 2020, the Democratic National Committee platform stated that: "Democrats will ensure that people with disabilities are never denied coverage based on the use of quality-adjusted life year (QALY) indexes."

The nonpartisan National Council on Disabilities wrote a report in 2019 titled: "Quality-Adjusted Life Years and the Devaluation of Life with a Disability" that condemned the usage of QALYs and they have continued to write additional letters to Congress urging us to ban their use.

Additionally, we have heard from nearly 200 advocacy groups spanning the political spectrum who are calling on Congress to prohibit the use of QALYs and other discriminatory measures.

This legislation, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, bans Federal payers, like Medicaid and VA healthcare, from using QALYs or other discriminatory measures that devalue the lives of people with disabilities and chronic or rare diseases, and it does it by simply applying the current ban on QALYs and other similar measures that exist in Medicare today to all Federal payers.

In passing this bill, it will mean that healthcare bureaucracies can no longer discriminate against the weakest and most vulnerable patients, and it will help ensure that people can get the healthcare that they need and that their doctors think is best.

This would be a big deal.

Medicaid is the largest payer for people with disabilities, and we are letting

it use measures that discriminate against the very people it was designed to support.

That is nothing to say of the millions of injured or disabled veterans who rely on the VA for their healthcare, which is also allowed to use these types of measures.

However, let me be clear in this: H.R. 485 does not prohibit healthcare programs from rewarding value or finding other ways to hold down costs.

For example, if a treatment does not work or shouldn't be covered or it is more appropriate to start with other more cost-effective treatments first, nothing in this bill will preclude the Federal payers from continuing to make these kinds of coverage decisions.

In fact, the National Council on Disability has already identified alternative ways to measure value that do not devalue the life of someone with a disability or chronic illness.

Because of Cole, I have spent my time in Congress as an ability advocate, encouraging people to focus on every individual's God-given talent and potential.

Millions of Americans like Cole need their voices to be heard. Whenever I meet someone with a disability or chronic illness, or with their family, I hear the same thing over and over: They want the same chances to succeed in life as everyone else.

You know what? We are all just one car accident or one diagnosis away from having a disability ourselves.

I hope that banning the use of discriminatory measures by Federal payers against people with disabilities and chronic illness and affirming every person's life has value is something that we can agree on. Let's give people with disabilities, rare diseases, or chronic diseases hope.

Mr. Chairman, I urge support of this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 485, the so-called Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, a bill that, unfortunately, does not live up to its name.

This legislation is not about protecting healthcare for patients. Instead, it is a Trojan horse intended to undermine the progress that President Biden and Democrats have made in lowering prescription drug costs for American families.

My Republican colleagues say this bill is intended to prevent the Secretary of Health and Human Services from using a measure called "quality-adjusted life years," or QALYs, which could be discriminatory against Americans living with disabilities, but Federal law, including the Inflation Reduction Act, already prohibits Medicare from using QALYs in its coverage determination, and State Medicaid programs are required by law to cover all drugs.

Instead, H.R. 485 goes further than current law and opens a back door that will be used to bar the use of any value measures by the Federal Government. These measures are used by Federal agencies such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and by States to negotiate fair prices for prescription drugs.

When this bill came before the Energy and Commerce Committee, I sought to clarify its intent through an amendment during markup. My amendment would have ensured the legislation could not be construed to undermine Federal agencies or the Biden administration's ongoing work to lower prescription drug prices for Americans, but that amendment was rejected on a party-line vote.

I still do not understand why the Republican majority would be opposed to clarifying that the bill before us today is not intended to undermine the Federal Government's efforts to determine fair prices for prescription drugs.

Now, I respect the chairman of our committee a great deal, but she keeps talking about how she is banning similar discriminatory measures. Well, the fact of the matter is that the bill doesn't say "similar discriminatory measures."

If she had said during the markup that she was willing to ban things that were discriminatory, it might have been a different situation. We might have had a consensus, but that is not what is going on here. This says "QALYs or similar measures," not similar discriminatory measures.

Some may say: Well, what is the difference?

The difference is the word "discriminatory" is not in the language of the bill.

We have no problem banning things that are discriminatory, like QALYs or similar discriminatory measures, but that is not in there.

So the problem is that this will be used by pharma to raise prices. The vagueness of the language opens up the door to pharma and the drug companies to sue and say that negotiated prices and efforts to try to reduce costs are not acceptable.

I am not suggesting that that is what the Republicans have in mind necessarily, but that is the reality of it. This is backed by pharma, by the pharmaceutical industry because they want to use it to undermine every effort the Democrats have made to try to bring down costs for prescription drugs in the Medicare market, in the Medicaid market, in Veterans Affairs, and on down the list.

I am deeply concerned that the ambiguity in the bill text would be a prime target for litigation by the pharmaceutical industry, an industry that has already shown a willingness to sue to keep outrageously high prescription drug prices in place.

We know that Big Pharma is already using similar tactics to try to fight the

implementation of the Medicare drug price negotiation program enacted by the Inflation Reduction Act. This bill could give them yet another point of entry to undermine Medicare's ongoing work to negotiate prescription drug prices.

Now, in addition, the Congressional Budget Office agreed that this legislation will hinder the ability of our Federal health programs to lower costs. CBO estimates that this bill will increase spending for prescription drugs in Medicare, Medicaid, and other Federal health programs, including the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs' health programs by \$1.1 billion in the next 10 years, and potentially tens of billions in the years that follow.

So because of the fact that this bill raises prices for the Federal Government, increases costs for prescription drugs, the Republicans had to put a pay-for in the bill.

The Republican bill before us today would gut the Affordable Care Act's Prevention and Public Health Fund in order to pay this \$1.1 billion for the legislation. It has long been the goal of Republicans to decimate the ACA's essential funding stream to lower healthcare costs through prevention. This funding in the prevention fund goes to our State and local partners to improve public health and prevent chronic diseases.

The prevention fund encourages smoking cessation, prevents childhood lead poisoning, and enhances infectious disease control.

This fund plays a critical role in our efforts to help the American people live healthier lives. House Republicans' decision to cut the prevention fund in order to throw more money at their Big Pharma friends makes it clear that they are not interested in reaching consensus or finding a bipartisan solution.

Instead, they would rather jam through a partisan bill that would hurt the very communities that they claim to be helping.

Mr. Chair, this bill is nothing more than a giveaway to Big Pharma at the expense of the American people and our Nation's public health. I strongly oppose the bill and urge my colleagues to oppose it, as well.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The reasons that the ranking member says to oppose the bill, they do not match what the bill actually says.

Current law already prohibits the use of QALYs and other similar measures in Medicare. Current law reads: "The Secretary shall not utilize such an adjusted life year or (such a similar measure) as a threshold to determine coverage. . . ."

I am not sure why all of a sudden we have this concern about other measures. All the bill would do is apply current Medicare law to other Federal

payers, and if people are insistent that other measures are not discriminatory, then they should have no problem in using them.

I will also point out to anyone who may be listening, according to CBO's cost estimate: "CBO does not expect that enacting H.R. 485 would affect the prices that result from negotiations between the Secretary and drug manufacturers."

I don't support this capping or government price fixing of drugs. I don't support it. I would like to see us work together to reduce the cost of drugs, but this bill, according to CBO, does not expect that H.R. 485 would affect the prices that result from negotiations between the Secretary and drug manufacturers.

Don't get distracted from the underlying bill here.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE).

□ 0930

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act led by Energy and Commerce Committee Chair RODGERS. This bill would permanently ban the use of quality-adjusted life years or similar measures under any Federal healthcare program.

Quality-adjusted life years. Think of that term. Should an academic or Washington bureaucrat be able to say some people are more valuable than others, that vulnerable populations like those with disabilities don't deserve the same access to treatment as others?

Individuals with disabilities, chronic conditions, and others to whom quality-adjusted life years or similar measures may discriminate against, deserve the chance to choose which treatments they access without a Washington bureaucrat or an academic with no clinical experience making the decision for them.

I support this legislation. I appreciate the chair for bringing it forward and sharing her personal story of why this is important. We all know and love Cole. I didn't know he wanted to be a race car driver. I think I did at 16, as well. He is a wonderful young man, and he represents a great group of people who don't deserve to be discriminated against.

Mr. Chair, I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do so.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO), the ranking member of the Health Subcommittee.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise, sadly, in opposition to this bill, H.R. 485.

I support, and everyone here supports, banning quality-adjusted life years, also known as QALYs. It is a discriminatory metric that should not be used, and Democrats are the ones who recognized this in 2010 when we banned Medicare's use of QALYs in the Affordable Care Act.

If this bill simply banned QALYs, it would pass the House, the Senate, and become law. It would become law quickly. However, the problem is that the legislation bans QALYs and “similar measures.” I have repeatedly said that this vague “similar measures” phrase is a problem, including during the hearing and the markup of the bill.

This overly broad “similar measures” phrase weakens the Federal Government’s ability to negotiate drug prices by ruling out any type of comparative effectiveness. Without this analysis, CBO found that States and the Federal Government would have less leverage for drug discounts.

The CBO estimates that this “similar measures” phrase will raise Federal costs in Medicaid by nearly half a billion dollars—that is with a b—and by nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in TRICARE and the VA. It also means out-of-pocket costs will rise for veterans and Federal workers, and State budgets will be hit by higher Medicaid spending.

Mr. Chair, I have tried everything I could to fix this legislation. I voted “present” in the markup to continue bipartisan negotiations and met with the chairwoman about changing the language, but the bill before us today is the same bill that passed out of committee. It adds insult to injury because the Republicans are using the Affordable Care Act Public Health Prevention Fund to pay for it. Over 170 patient and public health groups oppose using this fund as an offset.

My Republican colleagues have said they wish the legislation could be bipartisan, but their actions say otherwise. This bill has only five cosponsors, all Republicans, no Democrats. It has a poisonous pay-for, and the Veterans’ Affairs and Armed Services Committees never heard the bill despite its major impact on the VA and TRICARE.

This is, in my view, a partisan bill that needlessly cuts public health to increase drug spending, and that is why I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, this bill should be bipartisan. This legislation before us today takes the language that the Democrats put into the Affordable Care Act, and again I will quote it: “The Secretary shall not utilize such an adjusted life year (or such a similar measure) as a threshold to determine coverage. . . .” We take that language from Medicare inserted by the Democrats in the Affordable Care Act, and we apply it to all Federal payers. It should be bipartisan.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, which would ban the use of the quality-adjusted life years metric in our Federal health programs.

I thank Chair RODGERS for her leadership on this issue and her staunch ad-

vocacy for American patients, no matter their background. The use of QALYs when determining coverage and payment policies in healthcare at its core devalues the lives of patients with disabilities and chronic conditions.

As co-chair of the Rare Disease Caucus, I am concerned about how the use of QALY metric impacts payment decisions for chronic rare disorder patients, potentially making it more difficult for them to get access to lifesaving treatments. We can’t have that.

I am also concerned about how this metric could be used by bureaucrats to make decisions that discriminate against our Nation’s disabled veterans, our heroes. These lives have value and should not be discriminated against when determining the cost-effectiveness of treatments, plain and simple.

Pricing measurements and discriminatory methodologies such as QALYs have been condemned by the National Council on Disability. Even the Affordable Care Act contained a narrow ban of this metric, and I guess into Medicare, and I am disappointed that the Democrats have decided to turn their back on individuals with preexisting conditions like they have here today.

Let’s ban this metric and support H.R. 485, which has been endorsed by the National Down Syndrome Society. Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, and more than 100 other disability and patient advocacy groups. That speaks volumes, as far as I am concerned. I thank the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee for putting this forward, and let’s pass it today.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the ranking member of the Veterans’ Affairs Committee.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 485, the so-called Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023.

I have to say that it is a bit rich to hear my colleague talk about pre-existing conditions and their party’s concern for it when he has been part of the party that has been completely opposed to protecting people with pre-existing conditions because they have repeatedly, over and over, tried to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

The bill before us today does almost nothing to protect healthcare for patients and, instead, would likely increase healthcare costs across the board.

As the ranking member of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee, I am especially alarmed at the impact this bill would potentially have on our veterans’ care, and I have to say I wonder why this bill was not referred also to the Veterans’ Affairs Committee, given its impact on this jurisdiction.

Under current law, multiple Federal programs like VA’s have special pricing arrangements for prescription drugs that rely on up-front discounts and rebates. It is a win-win system for both taxpayers and veterans.

The VA keeps costs lower and is able to make sure veterans get access to the drugs they need. In fact, I would dare say the Department of Veterans Affairs has the most robust negotiations over the drugs on its formulary. However, this bill would upend this proven system and instead inject uncertainty into drug pricing.

That chaos has a very real cost for VA and DOD: \$240 million for the 2023–2033 time period, according to the CBO. “Other similar measures” simply does seem to have a measurable effect for CBO, those words, “other similar measures.” This will diminish VA’s ability to deliver care to veterans and force the Department to make cuts to services elsewhere.

Consequently, that begs the question, who benefits from this disarray? Big Pharma does. They reap the rewards and push up their profits. I have to say, their lobbyists will really have earned their outrageously large paycheck if this bill passes because it is so clearly a rip-off. Taxpayers and veterans lose, while Big Pharma wins? Give me a break.

However, House Democrats are opposed to this blatant rip-off and will fight it tooth and nail. Instead of doing Big Pharma’s bidding, we are focused on lowering drug prices for Americans. House Democrats are proud to have worked with the Biden administration to deliver on capping the cost of insulin at \$35 per month for seniors, finally allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prescription drug prices, and requiring drug companies to pay rebates to Medicare if they raise prices faster than inflation.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. LUTTRELL). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. TAKANO. Let me add, Democrats have also locked in \$800 per year in health insurance savings for 15 million Americans.

Members should ask themselves who has more credibility on protecting Americans’ healthcare and saving them money and lowering costs. I would submit the Democrats do.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill. It will cost taxpayers money, it will cost the VA more money, and just give more profits to Big Pharma.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Chair, if you go to the VA’s website, they have an entire page devoted to QALYs where they say outright, to date the quality-adjusted life year is the preferred metric for estimating health effects. There is a perfect example of what we are talking about right there on the VA website.

Mr. Chairman, I had surgery December 28, and I have been on this scooter ever since. It really does give you a different perspective for people with disabilities. For me, it is temporary, but

it has made me realize that people with disabilities, people with certain health challenges, it is not temporary for them. They deal with this all the time.

Are they any less of a person than I am or than you are? No.

That is what we are trying to say here. They deserve the same treatment as anyone else does.

I am in strong support of this Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act because it will expand access to lifesaving treatments and prevent discrimination against Americans with disabilities.

The way that we come up from the Rayburn Building up to the second floor, to the House Chamber, well, you know those escalators are broken right now. The other day, I am coming up, trying to make it to a vote. Both escalators are broken. I tried to get on the elevator, and someone has changed the elevator to where you have to have a badge to get on it. If there had not been someone who came by with a badge, I would still be sitting there right now.

□ 0945

This is serious. This is what we are talking about. These are real people. This is good legislation, and I thank the gentlewoman for bringing this. I support this, and I hope you will, too.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER), a member of our Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 485, the so-called Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023.

This legislation harms the very people it says it protects, increases prescription drug costs, and decimates funding for essential public health programs.

Last Congress, Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act, landmark legislation that gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services the power to negotiate drug prices for Medicare. This critical step is estimated to lower drug prices by at least 25 percent, saving seniors and taxpayers tens of billions of dollars and ensuring that people with Medicare get better, fairer prices for prescription drugs.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that this provision in the IRA alone will save the government \$100 billion over the next 10 years. In contrast, the CBO estimates that the bill before us today would not only increase drug prices across Federal health programs, but it would also increase Federal spending by \$1.1 billion over the next 10 years by eliminating important tools to manage drug prices. Without effective tools to determine the value of a drug, the government is at a disadvantage, and the taxpayers pay the higher price.

We know that 8 in 10 adults in the United States today say that the cost of prescription drugs is too high, and we know that 3 in 10 say that they

don't take all of their prescriptions as prescribed because they can't afford them. It is simply unacceptable.

It is unacceptable that Americans struggle so much to pay for the life-saving and critical drugs that they need to ensure their quality of life.

Just last week, the Biden administration announced that it had sent initial offers to participating drug companies for the first 10 drugs selected for price negotiation, a milestone in implementing the IRA. These 10 drugs alone cost seniors \$3.4 billion in out-of-pocket costs.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Chair, let me repeat that: These 10 drugs alone cost seniors \$3.4 billion in out-of-pocket costs in 2022.

While Democrats and President Biden are fighting for lower drug costs, House Republicans want to stop negotiations altogether.

Democrats are delivering, and we will continue to work to lower prescription drug prices for seniors and families across our country, but this bill does not do that.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered this motion with an important amendment to the bill to prevent this bill from taking effect until the Secretaries of HHS, Defense, and Veterans Affairs, as well as the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, certify that it will not result in an increase in prescription drug prices or an increase in patient costs in the United States.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Mrs. Fletcher moves to recommit the bill H.R. 485 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following new section:
SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall not take effect until the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Defense, and Veterans Affairs, and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management certify that such amendments will not result in an increase in prescription drug prices or an increase in patient costs in the United States.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, if this legislation harms people who we are intending to help, why do we have support letters from nearly 200 disability patient advocate groups across the political spectrum? Down Syndrome Society, Autism Speaks, Disability Law Center, and ARC all support this bill.

If the Democrats want to suggest that they are committed to lowering the cost of prescription drugs and that the reason to oppose this bill is because it is going to increase costs, the only reason this bill would increase costs is

if you are denying care to people who have disabilities. That is the only reason. You are discriminating against people. That is the only reason this bill would cost any money.

CBO already estimates that this bill is going to cost \$1.1 billion. Why is that? Why would this legislation cost \$1.1 billion? Because CBO is forecasting that there are going to be discriminatory measures used against individuals, and we are going to ban that. We are going to make sure that doesn't happen.

Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I specifically thank Chair McMORRIS RODGERS for her incredible work on this vital legislation.

As America continues to lead the way in research, development, and innovation of new therapies and medical devices, it is vital that these cures are available to the Americans who need them the most.

That is why today we are taking action to expand healthcare options to more patients than ever before by banning the use of quality-adjusted life years in all Federal programs.

More than 55,000 veterans live in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, many of whom were injured or disabled while serving in uniform for our country. For years, I cared for patients at the Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Blair County. This legislation will provide more protection for disabled veterans.

By passing the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, we can ensure that institutions like the VA will never again use QALY formulas to determine if a disabled veteran should receive the treatment that they need, should receive the treatment that they deserve.

It is time to ensure that patients are protected and receiving the best quality care. All Americans, all patients, deserve that.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Republicans are pointing to the Congressional Budget Office's score of their bill as proof that healthcare programs are already using the QALY to discriminate against people, but that is simply not what the CBO score says.

It is ironic Republicans would point to CBO's analysis, given it highlights my exact concern that this bill's reference to other "similar measures" is ambiguous and undermines drug price negotiations.

It is precisely this uncertainty that would result in a chilling effect on States and Federal agencies being willing to look at the cost of prescription drugs.

Again, I take no issue with banning QALYs, and I offered an amendment in committee to ban QALYs when this

bill was marked up, but that is not what this is about.

This is an effort by the Republicans to back up pharma and make sure that we don't look at cost measures; that we don't negotiate prices, which they oppose in Medicare; and that we simply let the pharmaceutical companies charge whatever they want.

Imagine what it would be like if the pharmaceutical companies could charge whatever they want. Not only would it cost another \$1.1 billion, which is what the CBO says, but it could undermine any efforts to lower the cost of prescription drugs throughout any Federal and State programs.

What does that mean? What does that mean for people? How would we continue to fund programs for seniors, for the disabled, for anyone if we cannot adjust the cost issue and keep costs down for prescription drugs?

There is no effort here on the Democrats' part to continue with QALYs. We are opposed to them, but you have to continue to be able to look at costs in a nondiscriminatory way.

That is what is not going to happen if this bill becomes law. There will not be any way or any effective way for any Federal, State, or local agencies to look at cost measures, and costs will continue to skyrocket, exactly what pharma wants.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairwoman RODGERS for yielding time.

I am proud to support the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act championed by my good friend and a true leader, Chairwoman RODGERS.

We need to recognize and affirm that every life is precious and a gift from God. It is unconscionable that healthcare payers use quality-adjusted life years as a measurement to determine if treatment options for patients are cost-effective.

Federal healthcare programs should provide patients with the best care available, regardless of preexisting conditions and those suffering with disabilities.

It is important we find fiscally and ethically responsible solutions to reduce healthcare costs in this country without devaluing the sanctity of life.

Mr. Chair, I urge support for final passage.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER).

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of Chair RODGERS' Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, which addresses the Federal Government's discriminatory practices toward disabled and chron-

ically ill patients through the use of quality-adjusted life years.

Quality-adjusted life years are used by bureaucrats and healthcare administrators to assign a numerical value to an individual's life, which is then used to make coverage decisions for medical treatments and services.

Current law already largely prevents the Department of Health and Human Services from using this metric in Medicare "in a manner that treats extending the life of an elderly, disabled, or terminally ill individual as of lower value." This discriminatory metric has even been proposed to be used by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The bottom line is this: The Federal Government should not play a role in determining the value of a patient's life.

As a pharmacist for over 30 years, I understand that ensuring patients with disabilities and chronic illnesses have continued access to quality care is of utmost performance.

The Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act will ban the use of quality-adjusted life years in Federal healthcare programs, expanding access to healthcare for Americans and protecting patients across the country.

As a healthcare provider, we take an oath to first do no harm. Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this landmark legislation led by Chair MCMORRIS RODGERS and put the interests of patients first.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act.

Quality-adjusted life years, or QALYs, are a metric used to assign a dollar value on someone's life and ration healthcare treatments accordingly, often discriminating against those with disabilities.

This isn't the first time we have heard this. I remember a former President, in advocating for the Affordable Care Act, said if someone has a broken hip, and they are elderly, they are just going to have to deal with it.

Current law prevents the Secretary of Health and Human Services from using QALYs in Medicare specifically in a manner that treats extending the life of an elderly, disabled, or terminally ill individual as of lower value.

This legislation simply extends the QALYs prohibition to other Federal healthcare programs not included under current law.

As a doctor, it is outrageous for government bureaucrats to determine whether a person's life is worth saving.

It is interesting to hear the other side of the aisle concerned about cost after advancing the Affordable Care Act when they knew it would lead to

increased costs, increased premiums, which it has done, and patients losing their doctors and their healthcare plans.

If my colleagues are concerned about veterans' affairs, I happen to be the chair of the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. We can introduce this there, as well.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

□ 1000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chairman, I thank my good friend and colleague, Representative MCMORRIS RODGERS for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act. This bill, led by Chairwoman RODGERS, would prohibit all Federal healthcare programs from using quality-adjusted life years, or as you may hear them called, QALYs, as criteria to determine coverage for often life-altering treatments for patients. Quality-adjusted life years are measures that discount the value of a life based on disability, age, or terminal illness, and are currently used by all Federal healthcare payers, except for Medicare.

Put plainly, programs like Medicaid and the Department of Veterans Affairs allow unelected, nameless, faceless bureaucrats to put a dollar value on the life of a patient to determine whether the treatment is cost-effective or not. In doing so, these programs and agencies discount an individual's worth and need for medical care based upon their disability status and whether they have a chronic illness.

Ultimately, the use of QALYs amounts to discrimination, something that is all too common in our healthcare system. Patients with disabilities, for instance, are often denied the ability to receive lifesaving organ transplants.

As the sponsor of the Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act, I personally and firmly believe that patients with disabilities and other chronic conditions should receive equal treatment, whether it is for an organ transplant or coverage of essential medicines.

I applaud Chairwoman RODGERS' efforts to protect the lives of all patients, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

No bureaucrat should be able to coldly determine the life and value of a patient.

This bill that we have an opportunity to vote on today is a huge step forward in fighting discrimination within our healthcare system.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining on each side.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Washington has 8 minutes remaining. The gentleman from New Jersey has 13 minutes remaining.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio. (Mr. WENSTRUP).

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Chairman, I rise here today in support of H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for all Patients Act, and I thank Chairwoman MCMORRIS RODGERS for bringing this important legislation forward.

I am a physician who is proud to join my colleagues in leading this bill that bans the use of quality-adjusted life years, QALYs, as it is called, in all Federal programs.

As a physician I took an oath, determined to treat each patient as a human being first and foremost. Quality metrics intentionally devalue treatments for disabled and chronically ill patients in determining whether a treatment is cost-effective. In other words, telling the patient, you are not worth it.

The bottom line is this: These cost measurements put an artificial dollar value on a person's life, valuing the lives of Americans differently.

In doing so, QALYs interferes with the sacred duty of a physician to care for all patients equally. Treating all patients equally and with a personal touch is something that I have always taken great pride in.

Our healthcare system must value all lives and ensure every person is treated with dignity. Our government should never deny healthcare to all Americans based on how much a life is perceived to be worth. This is a check on our morality. This is a check on our values. We should value human life and work towards healthier human lives, not devalue human life nor indignify one another.

Mr. Chair, I urge all my colleagues to join me in blocking government bureaucrats from putting an arbitrary price tag on the life of every American—bureaucrats that will never meet you or take responsibility for your care.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt that the pharmaceutical industry would like to see the gains we have made to lower drug prices through the Inflation Reduction Act halted or reversed. That is why they have brought numerous Federal lawsuits against the law in courts throughout the country, even as the Department of Health and Human Services just announced opening offers for the first 10 drugs selected for negotiation to bring down costs.

This bill would simply provide a new avenue for the pharmaceutical industry to pursue litigation intended to hamper the IRA and the negotiation program overall, and it doesn't stop there. It could strip States of one of

the only tools that they have to negotiate Medicaid drug rebates.

Now, while proponents of this legislation would have you believe that this bill just extends current law, unfortunately, that is not the case. It expands and changes current law. It applies the language from the Inflation Reduction Act in a new context and broadens its applicability to ban the use of other similar measures across the Federal Government, and that means limiting the ability to look at costs. If we don't have the ability to compare drugs and see which ones are effective and which ones cost more, then we won't have the ability to lower costs. What that means is we allow pharma to charge whatever they want.

The CBO says this is going to cost another \$1.1 billion, which is why the Republicans seek to cut the Prevention and Public Health Fund to pay for it. But this is going to lead us down the path of saying that we can't look at cost at all. That means that costs will balloon for Medicare, for Medicaid, and for prescription drugs. The consequence of that is you can't pay for other programs that help seniors, that help poor people, that help veterans, that help those in the military with their health and the quality of their health.

This is a very dangerous piece of legislation, and Democrats are speaking out against it because of the consequences and our ability to fund health programs around the country at every level.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Protecting Health Care for all Patients Act of 2023 led by Chairwoman RODGERS.

I rise today not only as a Congressman, Mr. Chair, but as a father to a 21-year-old man with Down syndrome, a young man who has never been defined by his disability, but rather, his ability. The use of quality-adjusted life years is disgusting.

Mr. Chair, it is disgusting. Using a cost benefit analysis to determine if someone deserves healthcare, if their life has value, is just plain wrong, Mr. Chair.

This is the result of socialized healthcare medicine, the future that the Democrats want. It is a future where a doctor will turn you away because your treatment just doesn't make economic sense.

This is called rationalized healthcare, Mr. Chair, meaning the government will determine if your life is worth living. The bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., will determine if the lives of senior citizens in northern Minnesota should be saved and healthcare provided to them.

I thank Chairwoman RODGERS for introducing this bill, which prevents the Federal healthcare programs from de-

ciding the future of not only my son but all the children in this country that have a disability—from deciding if their life is valuable in comparison to others.

This bill is a beacon of hope for families like mine and the hundreds of thousands across this great Nation who are blessed to have children living with Down syndrome and other disabilities that enrich our communities. It is a promise that we will not stand idly by while our most vulnerable citizens are viewed as less than in a broken healthcare system.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. PERRY). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Chair, this bill ensures that individuals with disabilities, the elderly, our veterans, and the terminally ill are protected from discrimination and have access to affordable, comprehensive healthcare.

Let me tell you something. I am a spouse of an Iraq war veteran, and if you look on the Department of Veterans Affairs' site, Mr. Chair, they have quality-adjusted life years for our veterans. Since when do we determine the life of a veteran who signed up to give his or her life for this Nation, Mr. Chair?

The Democrats want to take it away, quality-adjusted life years. It is sad.

We are fighting for our elderly, the veterans, and our disabled community. For the bureaucrats to tell me or tell any of us whether a life is worth living or not is unconscionable, and we will not stand for it.

Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the Republicans' decision to offset this bill by raiding the Prevention and Public Health Fund underscores the real intentions. They are not seeking to improve the lives of those with disabilities or end the use of discriminatory measures, but to push forward with a partisan bill that will raise prices and cut critical funding used to improve public health.

The Prevention and Public Health Fund was established in the Affordable Care Act to provide for expanded and sustained national investment in health prevention and restrain the rate of growth in healthcare costs. Republicans have consistently sought to undermine, slash, and redirect these essential funds for unintended purposes.

Cutting the Prevention and Public Health Fund decimates our ability to effectively prepare for the next pandemic, respond to ongoing public health threats, and puts our States and local healthcare partners at a disadvantage moving forward.

Nearly 200 public health organizations sent a letter earlier this week expressing strong concerns with the manager's amendment, noting how detrimental cuts to the Prevention and Public Health Fund would be.

It is the height of irony that Republicans claim this bill would reduce discrimination for those with disabilities, while also cutting Federal investment in programs that improve the lives of those with disabilities.

The American people deserve better.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Chairman, I feel very strongly about why we need to oppose this bill, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

Democrats, and, hopefully, some Republicans, too, have spent a lot of time trying to reduce the cost of prescription drugs—and the States, as well. The bottom line is that we know that prescription drugs now are, if not the majority, a significant portion of healthcare costs.

If the Federal Government or the State government, or any government, is going to continue to provide quality care in this country, we must rein in the cost of prescription drugs, not only the cost but also have our agencies determine what drugs are effective and what drugs are not. We have no problem as Democrats in banning QALYs.

I have said that over and over again today, and I will keep repeating it. The bottom line is the way the language of this bill is constructed, it could easily lead to a situation where no Federal, State or government agency could effectively look at whether or not a drug is effective and what the cost is or make any decisions to pay for it based on the actual costs.

Now, sure, we could live in a world where the government pays unlimited amounts of money for everything—and I am sure pharma would love that because they like to charge whatever they want to increase their profits—but that is not a real situation. If you don't rein in the cost of prescription drugs, it not only is going to cost more for individuals out of their pocket, but it also means that the government can't provide services to people with disabilities or to seniors or to veterans.

That is why the CBO was saying that this bill is going to cost another \$1.1 billion, at a minimum, and possibly even more in the future, if you read what the CBO has actually said.

Republicans have a pay-for rule, so they say that if it is going to cost more, they have to pay for it in some way.

Well, how do they pay for it?

They cut the Prevention and Public Health Fund, the very fund that is used to prevent worse diseases, worse outbreaks, fund local public health programs so they can deal with public health in an effective way.

How is that beneficial to people with disabilities or anyone? It certainly isn't.

That is why there is so much opposition by various public health agencies to cutting this prevention fund to pay for this bill.

□ 1015

There is no justification for this bill. There was an opportunity in the Energy and Commerce Committee. I submitted language that would say not only would we ban QALYs, but we would ban any kind of discriminatory measures being used. The Republicans wouldn't accept that. This is what we are left with, a bill that is very dangerous, that is just a giveaway to pharma.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose what I consider rather dangerous legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

We have worked together on important legislation to lower costs, provide more transparency, bipartisan legislation from the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I am quite disappointed today that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have refused to come to the table on this one.

We just heard that there is no justification for this legislation. The ranking member actually said it is dangerous. Let me just point out again, nearly 200 advocacy groups, spanning the political spectrum, are calling on Congress to prohibit the use of QALYs and other discriminatory measures, perhaps because they see the VA's website today. Go to the VA's website and you will read, to date, the quality-adjusted life year, QALY, is the preferred metric for estimating health effect.

We have also heard that this bill is a big giveaway, a blank check, to pharma. Republicans agree, we must lower the cost of prescription drugs, and we have worked on it. Discriminatory action, discriminatory metrics against people with disabilities and chronic illnesses is not the way to do it.

We have heard today that the offset is a partisan pill. Let me just highlight that Senator SANDERS is using the prevention fund. Senator SANDERS is proposing right now to use the prevention fund to offset increased funding for community health centers. The Senate passed this provision 90-6. It is disappointing that now this is an issue of offsetting costs of no longer discriminating against those with disabilities.

Yes, we have to offset the cost of no longer discriminating against those with disabilities. That is why there is even a CBO score on this bill.

I also note that "similar measures," which seems to be an issue today with my colleagues across the aisle, are current law for Medicare. We are simply expanding that same language in Medi-

care to other Federal health programs. Why have different standards?

Mr. Chair, this should be the law of the land. This legislation is important. Those with disabilities and the advocacy groups are asking for Congress to take action. We have addressed the issues in the underlying bill.

Mr. Chair, I urge support. I hope today that we can come together, Republicans and Democrats, as Americans, to protect the healthcare and the access to healthcare for every individual with disabilities and chronic illnesses. As I mentioned, we are all just one car accident or diagnosis away from being that person. Vote "yes."

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 485, the so-called Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act.

The truth is this bill fails to protect health care for all patients. Instead, this bill undermines the Affordable Care Act by stripping funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund, our nation's first mandatory funding system dedicated to improving our nation's public health system and lowering public health care costs. This critical funding has helped the Centers for Disease Control reduce the leading causes of death and disability nationwide and support early detection of and response to public health threats.

This legislation is a step in the wrong direction. If passed, this bill would make it more difficult to improve the affordability of prescription drugs. House Republicans claim that this bill will help prevent discriminatory policies because it prohibits Medicaid, Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, Medicare Part D Plans (PDPs), the VA, and the Defense Health Agency from using Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs). The truth is federal law already prohibits Medicare from using QALYs in its coverage determinations, and state Medicare plans are required by law to cover all drugs.

If House Republicans were serious about ensuring all Americans have access to affordable, comprehensive health care treatments, they would have supported clarifying amendments to this bill that would ban discriminatory practices. Instead, we are presented with another bill that does not address the problem and does not put the interests of patients and taxpayers first.

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce, printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of House Report 118-374, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment and shall be considered as read.

H.R. 485

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITING THE USE OF QUALITY-ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS AND SIMILAR MEASURES IN COVERAGE AND PAYMENT DETERMINATIONS UNDER FEDERAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1182(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320e–1(e)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “or treats extending the life of an elderly, disabled, or terminally ill individual as of lower value than extending the life of an individual who is younger, non-disabled, or not terminally ill” after “because of an individual’s disability”;

(2) by inserting “described in the preceding sentence” after “such a similar measure”;

(3) by striking “The Secretary shall not” and inserting “A Federal agency (including the CMI (as described in section 1115A)) or State may not”;

(4) by striking “under title XVIII.” and inserting the following: “under any Federal health care program (as defined in section 1128B, except that such term shall include the health program established under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code).”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a Federal agency (including the CMI) or State may not waive the application of the provisions of this subsection (or the provisions of section 1852(o), section 1860D–12(h), section 1902(a)(88), section 1932(b)(9), or section 2102(e)) under section 1115, section 1115A, or any other demonstration or waiver authority.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) MEDICAID.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (86), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (87)(D), by striking the period and inserting “; and”;

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (87) the following new paragraph:

“(88) provide for compliance with the requirements of section 1182(e) (relating to prohibiting the use of certain measures in coverage determinations, reimbursement, and incentive programs).”.

(B) MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 1932(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396u–2(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) PROHIBITION ON USE OF QUALITY-ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS.—The provisions of section 1182(e) shall apply to the utilization of a dollars-per-quality adjusted life year or similar measure (as described in such section) by a medicare managed care organization under this title (or a prepaid inpatient health plan or prepaid ambulatory health plan, as defined in section 438.2 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation), under a contract with the State) in the same manner as such provisions apply to the utilization of such a year or measure by a State under this title.”.

(2) CHIP.—Section 2102 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397bb) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF QUALITY-ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS AND SIMILAR MEASURES.—A State child health plan shall provide for compliance with the requirements of section 1182(e) (relating to prohibiting the use of certain measures in coverage determinations, reimbursement, and incentive programs).”.

(3) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE.—Section 1852 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–22) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(o) PROHIBITION ON USE OF QUALITY-ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS.—The provisions of section 1182(e) shall apply to the utilization of a dollars-per-quality adjusted life year or similar measure (as described in such section) by an MA plan in the same manner as such provisions apply to the utilization of such a year or measure by the Secretary under this title.”.

(4) MEDICARE PART D.—Section 1860D–12 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–112) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) PROHIBITION ON USE OF QUALITY-ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS.—The provisions of section 1182(e) shall apply to the utilization of a dollars-per-quality adjusted life year or similar measure (as described in such section) by a prescription drug plan in the same manner as such provisions apply to the utilization of such a year or measure by the Secretary under this title.”.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply beginning on January 1, 2025.

SEC. 3. PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND.

Section 4002(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–11) is amended by striking paragraphs (7), (8), and (9) and inserting the following:

“(7) for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025, \$1,102,000,000;

“(8) for each of fiscal years 2026 and 2027, \$1,327,000,000;

“(9) for each of fiscal years 2028 and 2029, \$1,526,000,000; and”.

The Acting CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of House Report 118–374. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part B of House Report 118–374.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on how quality-adjusted life years negatively impacts individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their access to care.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 996, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I begin first by expressing my support for the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act and my appreciation to the leadership of Chairwoman McMORRIS RODGERS.

This bill seeks to address a long-standing concern for the disability community, a community that I have spent the better part of the last 20 years working in and among. It bans the use of quality-adjusted life years,

QALYs, measures from being used in Federal healthcare programs.

As we know, QALY measures have devalued the lives of disabled and chronically ill patients when it comes to deciding if a certain treatment is cost effective, putting a dollar sign on their lives and barriers to accessing proper treatment.

You heard a moment ago my colleague across the aisle refer to the bill in chief as dangerous. As the parent of a child living with epilepsy and on the autism spectrum, I can tell you what is dangerous is the way in which the healthcare system too often treats children and adults like her. It is neither progressive nor compassionate to put a dollar sign on the lives of those who need such life-affirming care.

The use of QALYs has put those with chronic illnesses and disabilities, like epilepsy, ALS, and Down syndrome, at the back of the line for treatment, too often denying them access and creating barriers to the support they need. It undermines our commitment to life-affirming care for our most vulnerable. No matter how it is expressed, no matter how it is denied, this practice devalues the lives of American citizens and loved ones like my own child.

My amendment seeks to provide additional oversight into the negative impact QALYs have on those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities.

The amendment is simple. It directs the Comptroller General to submit a report to Congress to thoroughly assess the damage QALYs have on our IDD community and how this measure adversely affects their access to life-saving treatments and medical care. It is simple and meant to provide additional oversight.

As noted, as the father of four children, one who lives on the autism spectrum with a seizure disorder, and a staunch advocate for our disability community, I again applaud Chairwoman McMORRIS RODGERS’ work on crafting the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act to ensure our most vulnerable populations have access to the medical treatments and services to manage their conditions and lead longer, healthier, and freer lives.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I appreciate and respect the views of the disability community and their strongly held belief that the use of QALYs in Federal health programs is discriminatory. That is why I do not oppose this amendment.

However, the amendment does not cure the problem with the underlying bill. This bill is a Trojan horse that purports to ban discriminatory measures like QALYs but in reality does a

lot more. This bill has the potential to ban a broad swath of cost containment measures that are not discriminatory and could harm the very communities that this bill is purported to help.

Those with disabilities need access to lower drug prices and healthcare services, and the Federal Government's and States' ability to use nondiscriminatory health measures is essential to bringing down costs. Otherwise, without leverage to get a better deal, we are stuck paying whatever pharma wants. The CBO agrees. That is why they estimate this bill will increase Federal spending by over a billion dollars in the next 10 years and potentially tens of billions of dollars more in the years ahead.

For this reason, I do not oppose the amendment, but, unfortunately, it does not resolve my concerns with the underlying bill.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I appreciate my colleague's support of the amendment. I will close with addressing the "yes, but" argument.

Those who live with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities and those who love them are quite familiar with the "yes, but" argument. Yes, we care about you, but others face struggles, too. Yes, we want you to have access, but others may have obstacles, too. Yes, we care about your lives, but we care about others more.

That is the basis of the argument against this bill, "yes, but." My daughter has heard it every day of her life. I have experienced it every day. Yes, we hope to educate her, but we don't have time for it. Yes, we want to give you access to vaccines and care, but you are not our priority. Yes, during COVID we wanted to ensure every life was protected, but we didn't have the time to work it out for you.

This bill is not perfect. The chairwoman doesn't expect it to be, nor do I. QALYs devalue the lives of Americans who have far too many obstacles in their place.

My argument in response to the argument against this bill is "yes, but." Yes, kids like mine deserve access to quality care; yes, those with disabilities deserve to have life-affirming services; and, yes, those with disabilities face far too many obstacles to living and pursuing a life of happiness; but we can take this one step.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank the distinguished gentleman for yielding.

We want to rise and help all of the families, particularly those families who every day are dealing with children and family members with disabilities.

This is an instance where I say can we all get together and can we try to

find a resolution toward making sure that we have good healthcare for these families and for these persons?

What I would offer is that presently this legislation undermines the Affordable Care Act by stripping dollars from the Prevention and Public Health Fund and undermining its critical investments in health and well-being. It makes it very difficult to help those who need help. It would stop funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which supports critical investments to help prevent disease.

At the same time, this legislation opens the possibility of limiting the use of any value metrics when determining a drug price.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office determined that this bill would raise drug costs for Medicare, Medicaid, and the Department of Defense. The CBO also estimates that this legislation would increase costs for Veterans Affairs health programs, raising Federal spending on prescription drugs by \$1.115 billion over 10 years and billions more in the following decades.

Americans are looking for answers, and they are looking for answers for all persons who need healthcare. To pay for these increased costs, there are plans to cut from the Prevention and Public Health Fund and cutting programs to improve public health and to prevent chronic diseases such as childhood lead poisoning and improving immunization rates.

Democrats in Congress, along with the Biden-Harris administration, are working to ensure all Americans have access to affordable care and effective healthcare treatments. This bill claims to protect people from discrimination. It would, in fact, result in harm to patients if enacted into law.

□ 1030

I believe that people with disabilities deserve equality, inclusion, and access to all aspects of American life.

Instead of prioritizing legislation that could lower prices for them, access value, and improve health, Republicans are attempting to pass legislation that undermines the work that we have done over a 10-year period to really include the disabled community.

If this bill is enacted, then the language referring to similar measures in the current version of the bill would introduce ambiguity across the health sector. It could invite lengthy lawsuits from an industry eager to stop any efforts to constrain its ability to set prices as high as it wants.

I simply want to say, as I started, can we all work together?

All aspects of our community need access to good healthcare—certainly, our disabled community—and this does more to undermine their access than to expand their access.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to send this back to the committee so that we can find common ground and really serve the disabled community and many others and not allow those

who seek profit to overcome those who seek good healthcare, including our seniors, our veterans, and many aspects of our community that have chronic diseases.

Mr. Chair, I rise today to discuss the issue concerning H.R. 485, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act.

The Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023 does not protect health care for patients, but rather undermines our progress in lowering prescription drug costs for American families.

This bill claims to prevent the federal government from using a measure called the Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY).

This is a red herring, as the Inflation Reduction Act already explicitly prohibits the use of QALYs.

The legislation goes further by banning the use of the QALY "or such a similar measure," across all federal health care programs, without defining what such a similar measure could include.

A long-standing criticism of QALY has been that it would:

Discriminate against people in poor health.

Extending the lives of individuals with underlying health conditions gains fewer QALYs than extending the lives of "healthier" individuals.

This blanket prohibition on the use of "similar measures" applied across the federal government.

This legislation opens the possibility of limiting the use of any value metrics when determining a drug's price.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office determined that this bill would raise drug costs in Medicare, Medicaid, the Department of Defense (DoD).

CBO also estimates that this legislation would increase costs for Veterans Affairs health programs, raising federal spending on prescription drugs by \$1.115 billion over 10 years and billions more in the proceeding decades.

Americans are looking for Congress to lower drug prices further, not increase them.

To pay for these increased costs, there are plans to cut from the Prevention and Public Health Fund and cutting programs to improve public health and prevent chronic diseases, such as childhood lead poisoning, and improving immunization rates.

Democrats in Congress along with the Biden Harris Administration are working to ensure all Americans have access to affordable and effective health care treatments.

This bill claims to protect people from discrimination but would in fact result in harm to patients if enacted into law.

I believe that people with disabilities deserve equality, inclusion, and access in all aspects of American life.

Instead of prioritizing legislation that could lower prices, assess value, and improve health Republicans are attempting to pass legislation that undermines the work of Congress and the Biden Administration.

If this bill is enacted the language referring to "similar measures" in the current version of the bill would introduce ambiguity across the health sector.

It could invite lengthy lawsuits from an industry eager to stop any efforts to constrain its ability to set prices as high as it wants for any drug—regardless of the drug's value.

In closing, it is imperative that health care be made affordable for those with disabilities. Disabled patients in this country deserve a reliable health care system.

We need to consider real legislation that will address prescription drug pricing at its core.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 118-374.

There being no further amendments under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MAST) having assumed the chair, Mr. PERRY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 485) to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs, and, pursuant to House Resolution 996, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House with a further amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Fletcher moves to recommit the bill H.R. 485 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by a 5-minute vote on passage of the bill, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 207, nays 210, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 39]

YEAS—207

Adams	Garcia, Robert	Pallone
Aguilar	Golden (ME)	Panetta
Allred	Goldman (NY)	Pappas
Amo	Gomez	Pascrell
Auchincloss	Gonzalez,	Payne
Balint	Vicente	Peltola
Barragán	Gottheimer	Perez
Beatty	Grijalva	Peters
Bera	Harder (CA)	Petersen
Beyer	Hayes	Pingree
Bishop (GA)	Himes	Pocan
Blumenauer	Horsford	Porter
Blunt Rochester	Houlahan	Pressley
Bonamici	Hoyer	Quigley
Bowman	Hoyle (OR)	Ramirez
Boyle (PA)	Huffman	Raskin
Brown	Ivey	Ross
Brownley	Jackson (IL)	Ruiz
Budzinski	Jackson (NC)	Ruppersberger
Bush	Jackson Lee	Ryan
Caraveo	Jacobs	Salinas
Carbajal	Jayapal	Sánchez
Cárdenas	Jeffries	Sarbanes
Carson	Johnson (GA)	Scanlon
Carter (LA)	Kamlager-Dove	Schakowsky
Cartwright	Kaptur	Schiff
Casas	Keating	Schneider
Case	Kelly (IL)	Scholten
Casten	Khanna	Schrier
Castor (FL)	Kildee	Scott (VA)
Castro (TX)	Kilmer	Scott, David
Cherfilus-	Kim (NJ)	Sewell
McCormick	Krishnamoorthi	Sherman
Chu	Kuster	Sherrill
Clark (MA)	Landsman	Slotkin
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Smith (WA)
Cleaver	Lee (CA)	Sorensen
Clyburn	Lee (NV)	Soto
Cohen	Lee (PA)	Spanberger
Connolly	Leger Fernandez	Stansbury
Correa	Levin	Stanton
Costa	Lieu	Stevens
Courtney	Lofgren	Strickland
Craig	Lynch	Swalwell
Crow	Magaziner	Sykes
Cuellar	Manning	Takano
Davids (KS)	Matsui	Thanedar
Davis (IL)	McBath	Thompson (CA)
Davis (NC)	McClellan	Thompson (MS)
Dean (PA)	McCollum	Titus
DeGette	McGarvey	Tlaib
DeLauro	McGovern	Tokuda
DelBene	Meeks	Tonko
Deluzio	Menendez	Torres (CA)
DeSaulnier	Meng	Torres (NY)
Dingell	Mfume	Trahan
Doggett	Moore (WI)	Trone
Escobar	Morelle	Underwood
Eshoo	Moskowitz	Vargas
Espallat	Moulton	Vasquez
Evans	Mrvan	Veasey
Fletcher	Mullin	Velázquez
Foster	Nadler	Wasserman
Foushee	Napolitano	Schultz
Frankel, Lois	Neal	Waters
Frost	Neguse	Watson Coleman
Gallego	Nickel	Weston
Garamendi	Norcross	Wild
Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez	Williams (GA)
Garcia (TX)	Omar	Wilson (FL)

NAYS—210

Aderholt	Burchett	Donalds
Alford	Burgess	Duarte
Allen	Burlison	Duncan
Amodei	Calvert	Dunn (FL)
Armstrong	Cammack	Edwards
Arrington	Carey	Ellzey
Babin	Carl	Emmer
Bacon	Carter (GA)	Estes
Baird	Chavez-DeRemer	Ezell
Balderson	Ciscomani	Fallon
Banks	Cline	Feenstra
Barr	Cloud	Ferguson
Bean (FL)	Clyde	Finstad
Bentz	Cole	Fischbach
Bergman	Collins	Fitzgerald
Bice	Comer	Fitzpatrick
Bilirakis	Crawford	Fleischmann
Bishop (NC)	Crenshaw	Flood
Boebert	Curtis	Foxx
Bost	D'Esposito	Franklin, Scott
Brecheen	Davidson	Fry
Buchanan	De La Cruz	Fulcher
Buck	DesJarlais	Gaetz
Bucshon	Diaz-Balart	Gallagher

Garbarino	Latta	Rogers (KY)
Garcia, Mike	LaTurner	Rose
Gimenez	Lawler	Rosendale
Gonzales, Tony	Lee (FL)	Rouzer
Gooden (TX)	Lesko	Roy
Gosar	Letlow	Rutherford
Granger	Loudermilk	Salazar
Graves (LA)	Lucas	Schweikert
Graves (MO)	Luetkemeyer	Scott, Austin
Green (TN)	Luttrell	Self
Greene (GA)	Mace	Sessions
Griffith	Malliotakis	Simpson
Grothman	Maloy	Smith (MO)
Guest	Mann	Smith (NE)
Guthrie	Massie	Smith (NJ)
Hageman	Mast	Smucker
Harris	McCaul	Spartz
Harshbarger	McClain	Stauber
Hern	McClintock	Steel
Higgins (LA)	McCormick	Stefanik
Hill	McHenry	Steil
Hinson	Meuser	Steube
Houchin	Miller (IL)	Strong
Hudson	Miller (OH)	Tenney
Huizenga	Miller (WV)	Thompson (PA)
Hunt	Miller-Meeks	Tiffany
Issa	Mills	Timmons
Jackson (TX)	Molinaro	Turner
James	Moolenaar	Valadao
Johnson (LA)	Moore (AL)	Van Drew
Johnson (SD)	Moore (UT)	Van Dwyne
Jordan	Moran	Van Orden
Joyce (OH)	Murphy	Wagner
Joyce (PA)	Nehls	Walberg
Kean (NJ)	Newhouse	Waltz
Kelly (MS)	Nunn (IA)	Weber (TX)
Kelly (PA)	Obenolte	Webster (FL)
Kiggans (VA)	Ogles	Wenstrup
Kiley	Owens	Westerman
Kim (CA)	Palmer	Williams (NY)
Kustoff	Pence	Williams (TX)
LaHood	Pfuger	Wilson (SC)
LaLota	Posey	Wittman
LaMalfa	Reschenthaler	Womack
Lamborn	Rodgers (WA)	Yakym
Larson (CT)	Rogers (AL)	Zinke

NOT VOTING—14

Biggs	Green, Al (TX)	Pelosi
Carter (TX)	Langworthy	Perry
Crane	Luna	Phillips
Crockett	Mooney	Scalise
Good (VA)	Norman	

□ 1106

Messrs. RESCHENTHALER, GREEN of Tennessee, LAMBORN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Messrs. BURGESS, CARTER of Georgia, THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, ROGERS of Alabama, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. BACON, Mmes. HOUCHIN and CAMMACK changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. EVANS, Mses. BARRAGÁN, STANSBURY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mses. MCCOLLUM, STEVENS, Messrs. MRVAN, MULLIN, and MOSKOWITZ changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

Ms. GRANGER changed her vote from “present” to “nay.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 39.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 211, noes 208, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 40]

AYES—211

Aderholt	Fulcher	Miller-Meeks
Alford	Gaetz	Mills
Allen	Gallagher	Molinaro
Amodei	Garbarino	Moolenaar
Armstrong	Garcia, Mike	Moore (AL)
Arrington	Jimenez	Moore (UT)
Babin	Gonzales, Tony	Moran
Bacon	Good (VA)	Murphy
Baird	Gooden (TX)	Nehls
Balderson	Gosar	Newhouse
Banks	Granger	Norman
Barr	Graves (LA)	Nunn (IA)
Bean (FL)	Graves (MO)	Obernolte
Bentz	Green (TN)	Ogles
Bergman	Greene (GA)	Owens
Bice	Griffith	Palmer
Biggs	Grothman	Pence
Bilirakis	Guest	Perry
Bishop (NC)	Guthrie	Pfuger
Boebert	Hageman	Posey
Bost	Harshbarger	Reschenthaler
Brecheen	Hern	Rodgers (WA)
Buchanan	Higgins (LA)	Rogers (AL)
Buck	Hill	Rogers (KY)
Bucshon	Hinson	Rose
Burchett	Houchin	Rosendale
Burgess	Hudson	Rouzer
Burlison	Huizenga	Roy
Calvert	Hunt	Rutherford
Cammack	Issa	Salazar
Carey	Jackson (TX)	Schweikert
Carl	James	Scott, Austin
Carter (GA)	Johnson (SD)	Self
Chavez-DeRemer	Jordan	Sessions
Ciscomani	Joyce (OH)	Simpson
Cline	Joyce (PA)	Smith (MO)
Cloud	Kean (NJ)	Smith (NE)
Clyde	Kelly (MS)	Smith (NJ)
Cole	Kelly (PA)	Smucker
Collins	Kiggans (VA)	Spartz
Comer	Kiley	Staubert
Crane	Kustoff	Steel
Crawford	LaHood	Stefanik
Crenshaw	LaLota	Steil
Curtis	LaMalfa	Steube
D'Esposito	Lamborn	Strong
Davidson	Latta	Tenney
De La Cruz	LaTurner	Lawler
DesJarlais	Lawler	Thompson (PA)
Diaz-Balart	Lee (FL)	Tiffany
Donalds	Lesko	Timmons
Duarte	Letlow	Turner
Duncan	Loudermilk	Valadao
Dunn (FL)	Lucas	Van Drew
Edwards	Luetkemeyer	Van Duyn
Ellzey	Luttrell	Van Orden
Emmer	Mace	Wagner
Estes	Malliotakis	Walberg
Ezell	Maloy	Waltz
Fallon	Mann	Weber (TX)
Feenstra	Massie	Webster (FL)
Ferguson	Mast	Wenstrup
Finstad	McCauley	Westerman
Fischbach	McClain	Williams (NY)
Fitzgerald	McClintock	Williams (TX)
Fitzpatrick	McCormick	Wilson (SC)
Fleischmann	McHenry	Wittman
Flood	Meuser	Womack
Foxx	Miller (IL)	Yakym
Franklin, Scott	Miller (OH)	Zinke
Fry	Miller (WV)	

NOES—208

Adams	Bush	Cohen
Aguilar	Caraveo	Connolly
Allred	Carbajal	Correa
Amo	Cárdenas	Costa
Auchincloss	Carson	Courtney
Balint	Carter (LA)	Craig
Barragán	Cartwright	Crockett
Beatty	Casas	Crow
Bera	Case	Cuellar
Beyer	Casten	Daids (KS)
Bishop (GA)	Castor (FL)	Davis (IL)
Blumenauer	Castro (TX)	Davis (NC)
Blunt Rochester	Cherfilus-	Dean (PA)
Bonamici	McCormick	DeGette
Bowman	Chu	DeLauro
Boyle (PA)	Clark (MA)	DeBene
Brown	Clarke (NY)	Deluzio
Brownley	Cleaver	DeSaulnier
Budzinski	Clyburn	Dingell

Doggett	Leger Fernandez	Salinas
Escobar	Levin	Sánchez
Eshoo	Lieu	Sarbanes
Españolat	Loftgren	Scanlon
Evans	Lynch	Schakowsky
Fletcher	Magaziner	Schiff
Foster	Manning	Schneider
Foushee	Matsui	Scholten
Frankel, Lois	McBath	Schrier
Frost	McClellan	Scott (VA)
Gallego	McCollum	Scott, David
Garamendi	McGarvey	Sewell
Garcia (IL)	McGovern	Sherman
Garcia (TX)	Meeks	Sherrill
Garcia, Robert	Menendez	Slotkin
Golden (ME)	Meng	Smith (WA)
Goldman (NY)	Mfume	Sorensen
Gomez	Moore (WI)	Soto
Gonzalez,	Morelle	Spanberger
Vicente	Moskowitz	Stansbury
Gottheimer	Moulton	Stanton
Grijalva	Mrvan	Stevens
Harder (CA)	Mullin	Strickland
Hayes	Nadler	Swalwell
Himes	Napolitano	Sykes
Horsford	Neal	Takano
Houlihan	Neguse	Thanedar
Hoyer	Nickel	Thompson (CA)
Hoyle (OR)	Norcross	Thompson (MS)
Huffman	Ocasio-Cortez	Titus
Ivey	Omar	Tlaib
Jackson (IL)	Pallone	Tokuda
Jackson (NC)	Panetta	Tonko
Jackson Lee	Pappas	Torres (CA)
Jacobs	Pascarell	Torres (NY)
Jayapal	Payne	Trahan
Jeffries	Pelosi	Trone
Johnson (GA)	Peltola	Underwood
Kamlaager-Dove	Perez	Vargas
Kaptur	Peters	Vasquez
Keating	Petterson	Veasey
Kelly (IL)	Pingree	Velázquez
Khanna	Pocan	Wasserman
Kildee	Porter	Schultz
Kilmer	Pressley	Waters
Krishnamoorthi	Quigley	Watson Coleman
Kuster	Ramirez	Wexton
Landsman	Raskin	Wild
Larsen (CA)	Ross	Williams (GA)
Lee (CA)	Ruiz	Wilson (FL)
Lee (NV)	Ruppersberger	
Lee (PA)	Ryan	

NOT VOTING—11

Carter (TX)	Kim (NJ)	Mooney
Green, Al (TX)	Langworthy	Phillips
Harris	Larson (CT)	Scalise
Kim (CA)	Luna	

□ 1113

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 40.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to be present for votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 39 and "aye" on rollcall No. 40.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I mistakenly voted "nay" on Motion to Recommit H.R. 485, rollcall Vote 39. I intended to vote "yea." Additionally, I regrettably missed recording my vote On Passage of H.R. 485, rollcall Vote 40. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted "no."

PILOT BUTTE POWER PLANT CONVEYANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on sus-

pending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 3415) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Midvale Irrigation District the Pilot Butte Power Plant in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT TO FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024; AND ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024, TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 9, 2024; and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

PROTECTING AMERICANS' HEALTHCARE

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023. This important legislation aims to prevent discrimination against Americans with disabilities and expand access to life-saving cures.

It would end the use of quality-adjusted life years in all Federal programs. Quality-adjusted life years are factors used to rank whether a patient is worth the expense of a particular treatment. This rubric intentionally devalues treatment for those who have disabilities and those with chronic illnesses. This practice has been widely investigated by various nonpartisan groups, and yet QALYs are only prohibited to Medicare in a limited fashion.

We know of countries using these metrics much more aggressively to decide which treatments they will fund. We must stand against that in the United States. The government shouldn't decide which lives are valuable enough for care.

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR

(Ms. STANSBURY asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish everybody who is celebrating in New Mexico and across the world a very happy Lunar New Year.

This Saturday, we will begin the Year of the Dragon, a symbol of strength, wisdom, and success.

Across New Mexico and the world, many will be celebrating with family and community traditions and joyful feasts. This holiday is a chance to reset and reconnect and is part of our history and culture as New Mexicans and the beautiful multicultural fabric that makes New Mexico who we are.

I hope all who are celebrating have a wonderful Lunar New Year full of celebrations and, of course, lots of delicious food. I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous Year of the Dragon.

HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY TO ANNIE RUTH NICKS

(Mr. JAMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JAMES. Madam Speaker, while we often recognize noteworthy and acclaimed personalities, we have so many other great, unsung heroes and amazing souls who do a ton of heavy lifting with little to no recognition. Yet, if truth be told, they serve as the glue, sturdiness, strength, and all that is good about America. They go about their jobs quietly, without having the expectation of recognition. In fact, they do what they do because it is God's work, it is the right thing to do.

I am privileged to be in a position where I can acknowledge one such unsung hero who happens to be the grand matriarch of my family. Born February 14, 1929, to William E. and Lillie Mae Ward, she is my grandmother, Ms. Annie Ruth Nicks. In a few days, we are blessed to celebrate her 95th birthday.

I am standing here on the shoulders of giants, her shoulders, four generations removed from slavery, because my grandmother has always covered me in prayer, has always had my back when I needed her the most, and because she didn't kill me as a child when I put a hole in her wall, flung apple-sauce on her ceiling, and played with matches too close to the house in the Mississippi summertime. I thank my Grandma and wish her a happy birthday.

CHAMPION OF THE WEEK DETECTIVE LARRY RHODABACK

(Mrs. SYKES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SYKES. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Akron Police Detective Larry Rhodaback as the Champion

of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Detective Rhodaback has worked for the Akron Police Department for 22 years and was working a secondary job in an apartment building when a 23-month-old girl went unconscious.

Detective Rhodaback immediately jumped into action and instructed the child's father to put the toddler on the table so he could perform CPR while the child's father called 911 for help. His lifesaving rescue efforts continued until emergency medical services crews arrived at the scene and the young girl was able to be transported to Akron Children's Hospital.

Detective Rhodaback reacted without hesitation to provide the necessary care the child needed to stay alive until more help could arrive. I thank Detective Larry Rhodaback for his heroic service to our community and his dedication to keeping members of our community safe.

RECLAIM CONGRESS' POLICYMAKING AUTHORITY

(Mr. KILEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, the Biden administration's Department of Labor has announced a new independent contractor rule that is a full-fledged assault on the right to earn a living in America.

It is estimated that this new rule will cost between 3.2 and 3.6 million American jobs, and this is not a matter of speculation. We have seen the devastating impact of the law that this rule was based upon, AB5 in California. A new study shows that this law in California led to a 10 percent decline in self-employment and a 4 percent decline in overall employment.

These are just numbers, though. What is really important to understand is the stories of folks who have lost everything because of AB5 in California.

This is from Daniel who said: I am a chiropractor in California. I was just terminated from my wonderful independent contract, 10-hour-per-week job. The company cited AB5. I have had this job for 10 years. The job allowed me flexibility to take care of my three special-needs kids. Now, it is gone.

To prevent millions of Americans from suffering the same fate as Daniel, I am sponsoring legislation under the Congressional Review Act to nullify this new rule from the Department of Labor, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reclaim the policymaking authority of Congress in this area.

STRONGER AIR POLLUTION STANDARDS

(Ms. McCLELLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. McCLELLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Environmental Protection Agency on finalizing a stronger air pollution standard that will protect communities and achieve better outcomes across our Nation.

Under the leadership of the Biden-Harris administration, the EPA strengthened the national air ambient quality standard for soot, from 12 micrograms per cubic meter to 9. Today's final rule is a major step toward addressing one of the most dangerous environmental health risks in the country.

As is too often the case, low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by soot pollution and experience worse health outcomes as a result, including higher rates of respiratory illnesses, particularly asthma, heart attacks, cancer, and infant mortality.

Strengthening these standards will prevent 4,500 premature deaths, avoid 290,000 lost workdays, and result in as much as \$46 billion in public health benefits.

Shortly after being sworn in, I called on the EPA to curb soot pollution and finalize a strong rule, and I am grateful for the administration's action which will begin to address historic inequities in our marginalized communities across the Nation.

CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate Lunar New Year, Seollal, and Tet Festival as we ring in the new Year of the Dragon, symbolizing strength, power, and good fortune.

I wish success, opportunities, happiness, and good changes for you and your family this new year.

In Congress, I will embody the fighting spirit of the dragon to keep breaking through the partisan gridlock and delivering results to keep our communities safe and prosperous, make life more affordable, and expand opportunities for Americans to achieve their dreams.

Please allow me to offer best wishes to everyone in different Asian languages:

Korean: "saehae bok mani badeuseyo"

Mandarin: "Xin nián kuài lè"

Cantonese: "Gong hei fat choy"

Vietnamese: "Chúc Mừng Năm Mới". Happy new year.

□ 1130

HONORING JOHN HAYWARD

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize John Hayward, a lifelong

resident, family man, community leader, and dear friend who passed January 27 at age 86.

After attending the Old West End's Rosary Cathedral and then graduating from Central Catholic High School, where he was senior class president, John later graduated from the University of Notre Dame. He was then commissioned for duty as a naval navigator aboard the USS *Independence*.

Later, after graduating from Georgetown Law School, John returned to Toledo to practice law with his father and to serve as assistant Lucas County prosecutor. He became special counsel on the Kent State University cases and then a founding partner in the firm Hayward, Cooper, Straub, Walinski & Cramer. In 1981, he joined Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick to specialize in healthcare law.

At 67, John so-called retired from law to become president of Mercy College in Toledo.

John chaired the board of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, as well as the Toledo and Ohio State Bar Associations.

After the death of his wife, Mary Beth, he found love again and married Jeanie Hayward in 2005.

To Jeanie and their precious blended family, we extend heartfelt condolences and gratitude for the life of John Franklin Hayward. May his spirit continue to inspire a new generation of leaders in all walks of life.

Madam Speaker, I include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of John's family members, and I thank America for his beautiful life.

Also surviving are his sisters, Kristi Brewer of Columbus, and Sally (Charles) Marlowe of Toledo; brother, Richard (Patricia) of Toronto, Ontario; children, John P. Hayward (Patricia McCormick) of Perrysburg, Thomas Hayward (Tom Wright) of Lexington, Kentucky, Bridget (John) Kahle of Columbus, and Ethan (Melinda) Hayward of Waterford, Michigan; stepchildren, Michael Bugert (Angie) of Toledo, Kristi DelVerne (James) of Toledo, Gretchen Williams (Ryan) of Prior Lake, Minnesota, and Jennifer Norman (Chad) of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; grandchildren, Benjamin (Ashley), and Ian Bonifas, Emma, Grant, and Cecily Hayward, Anna, Elizabeth, and Caroline Kahle, Megan and Amelia Hayward; great granddaughter, Elizabeth Bonifas; step-grandchildren, Theodore, Lindsay, and Megan Bugert, Amanda, William, Nicole, Olivia, and Sophia DelVerne, Abigail and Courtney Williams, Cooper, Graham, and Zoe Norman; and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to Mary Beth, John was preceded in death by his daughter, Elizabeth Hayward Bonifas.

HONORING WALTER WARREN PARKER

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Walter Parker, who passed away last year at the age of 88 in Bloomingdale, Georgia.

Walter was a Georgia native. He attended Savannah High School, where he graduated in 1954 before pursuing higher education in Virginia.

Walter served in the U.S. Army Security Agency in Germany. After completing service to his country, he became a civilian employee with the Department of Defense. Later on, he returned to Tybee Island, where he owned several businesses, including The Corner, The Ice Cream Cone, Bill's Grill, and Reynolds Apartments.

He also served as police commissioner for Tybee Island, and in 1985, he was elected mayor, where he led the city for 16 years.

I had the honor and privilege of serving as mayor of another city and serving alongside Walter. He did an outstanding job.

Walter loved many things, including playing the piano, classical music, and being a member of the chancel choir.

Walter Parker was a devoted public servant who served his country well.

WISHING ALL A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL TET

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, "Please pray for peace," "Xin kính chào quý vị." "Happy new year," "Chúc mừng năm mới." "I am Lou Correa," "Tui là Lou Correa."

Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize this Saturday, February 10, as Tet, or the Vietnamese new year.

Orange County, my home, is also the home to the largest Vietnamese community outside of Vietnam. This year, Tet marks the beginning of the Year of the Dragon.

This annual celebration brings families together. They cook, decorate their houses, and come together to celebrate Tet across Orange County. Orange County's Vietnamese community is an essential part of our county. They are entrepreneurs, teachers, soldiers, generals, and local leaders.

That is why I was honored to host U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Marc Knapper for the first visit he has ever made to Orange County earlier this year.

Madam Speaker, I wish everybody at home a happy and successful Tet.

"Chúc mừng năm mới," "Happy new year."

ANOTHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FAILURE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, roughly 18 million students fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, FAFSA, each year. Yet, this week, the Department of Education celebrated 3.6 million forms being submitted. That is

20 percent, a failing grade in any classroom, yet the Biden administration considers this success?

Countless students and families are being negatively impacted by this administration's outrageously incompetent implementation of a bipartisan law passed more than 3 years ago.

The Department had plenty of time to prepare for the FAFSA rollout. Instead, it zealously and recklessly pursued an illegal student loan scheme. The Department's actions have had real consequences. Students are hurting, especially low-income students who are most dependent on taxpayer aid from the Federal Government.

The Department promises that colleges will receive financial aid information in mid-March. Given this Department's empty promises and missed deadlines throughout the past year, I won't hold my breath.

CALLING FOR BIPARTISAN IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Ms. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, we can all agree in this House that our immigration system is broken, and we need a real bipartisan solution to protect our border and create a pathway to citizenship, solutions like the bipartisan Dignity Act and the bipartisan legislation that was negotiated in the Senate.

Business leaders all around this country are asking for this because it will help build the workforce our economy needs, address worker shortages, strengthen supply chains, and boost our competitiveness. It is a win-win for businesses of all sizes and for families.

Many of my Republican colleagues, I believe, agree with that. However, when they finally had the chance to do something about it, too many changed their mind because of none other than Donald Trump. The far right would rather campaign on a broken immigration system than actually fix a broken immigration system.

I came to Washington to solve problems, not exploit them for cheap political points, and I hope my colleagues have the courage to do the same so we can keep people safe, boost our economy, and preserve the American Dream.

CELEBRATING DR. ELDRED CAUSEY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. CLYDE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual in Georgia's Ninth District, Dr. Eldred Causey.

On February 11, Dr. Causey, a distinguished World War II veteran and the oldest living veteran in Rabun County, will celebrate his 100th birthday.

Dr. Causey's life is nothing short of extraordinary. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, young Eldred knew he wanted to answer the call of duty. As a naval aviator, Lieutenant Junior Grade Causey courageously served our Nation, patrolling the Pacific Northwest throughout the war while stationed at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island.

After his military service, Mr. Causey returned to the Peach State to attend the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Georgia. He then opened his own veterinary practice in Athens and later returned to the university as a professor, leaving a remarkable impact on his students and the University of Georgia community.

Dr. Causey's life represents a century of bravery, sacrifice, and dedication. As the Rabun County community celebrates Dr. Causey's major milestone birthday next week, I know I speak for the Ninth District in thanking Eldred for his honorable service and wishing him a wonderful 100th birthday.

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, community colleges are the lifeline for eastern North Carolina, rural America, and beyond.

North Carolina's First Congressional District is the home to 11 community colleges that are committed to building a stronger future for families across the East.

Recently, I was glad to speak with Pitt Community College President Dr. Lawrence Rouse at a legislative breakfast in D.C., Edgecombe Community College President Dr. Greg McLeod here in D.C., Halifax Community College President Dr. Patrena Benton Elliott on her campus, and College of Albemarle President Dr. Jack Bagwell in my D.C. office.

I met with these dynamic presidents, members of the board of trustees, faculty, and students to learn more about how they are working to address industry's needs. We must invest in our community colleges to economically empower rural communities across America.

Madam Speaker, I am also glad to share a special congratulations for Dr. Rouse on his dedicated service and retirement.

FIGHTING BIDEN'S WAR ON AMERICAN ENERGY

(Mr. FITZGERALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, since President Biden's first day in office, he has waged an unprecedented war on American energy. The cost, of course, is ultimately passed down to Americans.

Let's break down a few critical missteps from the White House on energy policy.

This administration has crippled U.S. energy independence, as seen by the administration's most recent decision to halt approvals for new natural gas export terminals.

This administration has also made our country more dependent on foreign energy, propping up our adversaries, as seen by his decision to shut down the Keystone XL pipeline, which impacted many hardworking Wisconsinites.

The latest push from the administration seems to be a political agenda against gas vehicles, which, of course, will levy even higher costs on Americans who cannot afford an electric vehicle.

House Republicans, on the other hand, have remained committed to making energy more affordable and putting American energy first.

We passed the Lower Energy Costs Act, which received bipartisan support and will put the country on a path to responsibly power our future.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, this is African-American History Month, Black History Month, and we find that much of the history of Texas is intertwined with African-American history.

A slave woman was called the Yellow Rose of Texas, and we realize that it was President Lincoln who insisted on sending General Granger to Texas to show the Western States that slavery was over after they rebuffed and refused to free the slaves west of the Mississippi.

General Granger came on June 19, 1865, to declare that the slaves be made free and that States like Texas stop defying Federal law.

It is interesting that out of that, we have been able to establish the first Federal holiday in 38 years, and that is Juneteenth, which equals freedom. Now, across the Nation, there will be States, 50 of them, celebrating Juneteenth on June 19.

We have outstanding pastors that I honor today: Reverend William A. Lawson, Reverend F.N. Williams, Reverend Samuel Smith, and Reverend S.J. Gilbert.

Of course, we honor our community colleges that are enormously diverse and educate mountains and many African American students.

Texas and African-American history is better because African-American history is part of the history of Texas.

□ 1145

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BURTON MILES BUNDY

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I sadly rise today to acknowledge the loss of a friend, Burt Bundy. Burton Miles Bundy, age 82, passed peacefully at home in Los Molinos, California, on January 25, and will take a seat at the poker table with his buddies in heaven who are waiting for him.

Burt was born in Santa Maria, California. In 1946, his family moved to a ranch in Los Molinos, California, Tehama County, where he lived until his last day. He was a graduate of Los Molinos High School, class of 1959, before attending UC Davis.

Burt enlisted in the Air Force in 1960, and specialized as a jet aircraft mechanic on such planes as the F-102, F-105, and F-106. He was stationed at a base in Tacoma, Washington, where he met and married his lovely wife, Joyce McGinn, in 1962, and was then deployed to Thule, Greenland, before being discharged in 1963.

In 1968, Burt and Joyce opened their feed store, Los Molinos Feed and Supply. They ran that business together until he was elected to the Tehama County Board of Supervisors in 1981.

Burt was a leader on water, land, agriculture, and fish issues throughout the north State, serving as county supervisor for five terms. He also served as a board member on the California Farm Bureau, Tehama County Farm Bureau, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Regional Council for Rural Counties, and many others.

Burt was a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend to so many. He and his wife, Joyce, went to almost every Tehama County event—certainly every one I ever went to—and have always been willing to volunteer and lend a helping hand with anybody.

He coached Little League and was an avid hunter. His special place was a cabin located on Mill Creek. I would frequently run into him at car shows where they were showing off their really nicely done 1957 Chevy.

Burt was a big fan of the San Francisco Giants, and we hated the Dodgers together. He loved to fix cars and raise cattle his whole life.

Burt not only traveled with Joyce, but was also a graduate of the 1998 Ag Leadership Class 29, traveling around the world talking about California agriculture to everybody.

Burt spent 61 years with his wife, Joyce, and is survived by his sons, Lance and Justin, and five grandchildren. May God bless him and his family.

CONGRATULATING PASQUALE T. DEON, SR., ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of a remarkable constituent from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Pasquale T. Deon, Sr., who retired from the board of Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority on January 25, 2024.

Pat is the longest tenured chairman and board member in SEPTA history, serving the residents of greater Philadelphia since 1995. During his tenure at SEPTA, Chairman Deon was committed to securing budgetary stability for the transportation authority through the use of innovative financial mechanisms.

Chairman Deon revitalized the transit authority and contributed to 22 years of balanced budgets and the growth of SEPTA into the fifth-largest public transportation system in the Nation.

Moreover, Chairman Deon boasts an impressive record of bipartisan success for SEPTA, having worked with six Governors, five Philadelphia mayors, numerous county commissioners and councilmembers to secure the resources integral to SEPTA's continued operation and success.

Under his leadership, Chairman Deon advocated for the development and implementation of new technologies that put SEPTA on the cutting edge of efficient public transportation, including the introduction of the SEPTA Key, the integration of the SEPTA control center, a centralized command station, and the implementation of the Positive Train Control, a system designed to advance and improve rail safety technologies.

Moreover, Chairman Deon oversaw numerous technological advancements dedicated to making SEPTA a more sustainable system, including the introduction of hybrid buses into the fleet.

SEPTA is now a committed partner of the MACH2 hydrogen hub proposal, a project aimed to use existing technologies to generate clean hydrogen energy with the goal of transitioning the SEPTA fleet to zero-emission by 2040.

Madam Speaker, we congratulate Chairman Deon on his retirement and wish him the best in the future.

IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCHIN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, with no shortage of topics to discuss and cover today, the House of Representatives just recently passed the Protecting Health Care for all Patients Act, a crucially important bill. I commend the leadership of Chairwoman CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS from the Committee on Energy and Commerce to get it done today.

I appreciate my colleagues joining me today to share their messages regarding the ongoing turmoil and unnecessary strain on our border due to President Biden's inability to get that under control, as well as other topics, from women's sports and beyond.

They have come to share their messages and speak to not only America but their own district.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN), a good colleague and friend representing the Fourth District.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank Vice Chairman MOORE for yielding.

Madam Speaker, as I stand before you, America is being invaded.

Right this minute, criminals, human traffickers, drug lords, and kingpins are taking advantage of our porous border. If that thought wasn't terrifying enough, hundreds of individuals on the U.S. terror watch list are entering our country as if we don't even have a border.

Secretary Mayorkas is welcoming our enemies into our great Nation and doing it deliberately.

Madam Speaker, I have visited our southern border twice now, and I can say without a shadow of a doubt it is a turnstile for crime, cartels, and drugs.

Secretary Mayorkas has allowed this to happen at the direction of the Biden administration. He has unilaterally disarmed the border by refusing to enforce the existing laws and blatantly disregarding his oath of office, but that is not all. We know that Secretary Mayorkas has issued guidance stating that an illegal immigrant's presence alone is not grounds for deportation. Not even criminal charges or convictions or gang membership are enough for deportation.

Only in crazy town can you break the law and be rewarded.

Madam Speaker, Secretary Mayorkas doesn't want to end the mayhem at the border. Rather, he blatantly supports and is forcibly pushing for this madness. That is why there has been over—here are the numbers:

8.3 million illegal crossings nationwide;

Over 7 million illegal crossings at the southern border;

1.7 million known got-aways; and

169 terrorists caught trying to cross the border, which is an all-time record.

Do we know who is coming in, and do they wish to do us harm?

That is the point, Madam Speaker. We don't know.

What we do know is that Secretary Mayorkas has failed us all, and it is not just bad in Texas. From California to the free State of Florida, States across the country are now feeling the consequences of the border crisis.

In recent days, Border Patrol's Miami sector arrested an illegal resident with an Interpol red notice for homicide in Nassau, Bahamas;

An illegal immigrant convicted of attempted indecent liberties with a minor; and

An illegal immigrant with over five DUI convictions.

It is out of control, Madam Speaker.

Florida is located more than 1,000 miles from the southern border, but my constituents bear the brunt of this disaster, from strains on our schools and healthcare systems to fentanyl on our streets and strains on our law enforcement.

Planeloads of illegal immigrants are being off-loaded in our communities during the middle of the night at taxpayers' expense.

Madam Speaker, the border is a fight, but it is a fight worth having. When it comes to the border crisis, Americans are looking for leadership, not denials, distractions, or deflections. It is time to impeach.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I can't overemphasize the point about fentanyl enough, and I am glad the gentleman made it again.

That was something that was top of mind, as I just had constituent meetings in Utah, particularly with law enforcement, in trying to squelch this overabundant invasion of fentanyl. It is catching people in situations that they would have otherwise not gotten into. It is overtaking our communities, and we need to communicate about it and have it addressed.

Fentanyl becomes more and more the clear topic that we need to get out ahead of, and I think that is something that is motivating the Republican Conference more than anything to address this border issue.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, Vice Chairman MOORE, for yielding and for claiming the time this morning to discuss these important issues facing our Nation.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear. The President has the existing authority to close the southern border today. No act of Congress is necessary, no new law is needed.

Section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes the President to, "suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens," whose entry he finds "would be detrimental to the interests of the United States."

This is authority that has been used in the past successfully by previous Presidents to gain control of the border when it has lost control.

His refusal to do so signals his unwillingness to secure our border, despite Customs and Border Protection

reporting more than 8 million illegal encounters nationwide, including 361 on the terror watch list since President Biden took office, in just 3 short years.

Let's be honest with the American people, Madam Speaker. If the President seriously thought an act by Congress was necessary to secure the border, and if he was actually willing to do so, why didn't he do it when Democrats controlled both the House and the Senate?

The answer is simple. It would go against the White House's policy and the President's policy and desire to keep our borders open and let into this country millions of people illegally.

As a candidate, President Biden made this clear. He said it multiple times on the campaign trail. So this isn't a policy failure. It is the policy of President Biden.

Now that it is an election year and the majority of Americans believe the situation at the southern border is a crisis, according to at least recent CBS News Polls and others, President Biden is attempting to put a Band-Aid on what is, in my opinion, a bullet wound, and worse yet, a self-inflicted bullet wound.

Except, attached to that Band-Aid, are multiple, unnecessary, and costly items that will only make matters at our borders worse.

The Senate border bill isn't a border bill, it is an immigration bill that legitimizes President Biden's open-border policies and steals money from our grandchildren and great-grandchildren and relatives far into the future.

On behalf of all sensible Tennesseans whom I represent, I could not in good faith vote for this bill in its current form. Rather, we must enact serious and stringent border security reforms, like the ones passed by the House almost 1 year ago in H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

New law is not needed in order to empower the President to deal with the problem at our southern border, but rather, to force the President to deal with the problem at our southern border.

Throwing money at the problem won't solve it. Passing new laws won't solve it, unless the President is either forced or develops a willingness to enforce the laws of this country and stop the flow of illegal immigrants and illicit drugs into this country, his proposals will only make matters worse.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing any legislation that will only memorialize or place into law the policies of this administration to allow illegals to flow into the country.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for his willingness to always show up and share his message. His constituents and Americans alike appreciate it.

Madam Speaker, I am from Utah's First, and I call it the best district. I believe California is also the First Dis-

trict, so we will also call it the best district.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), the first best district.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, we come to this microphone day after day, especially the last 2½ to 3 years, recounting the difficulty that we—"we," this collective body, the House and Senate, and the government in general—we are putting the people of this country through, this unnecessary pain, unnecessary crisis, just one after another.

□ 1200

This isn't made by weather or nature or even foreign enemies, per se. We are causing it by the actions either from this administration directly or their bureaucracy. It is one thing after another. In my home State of California, we echo that in spades there as well.

One of them right now is the condition that we are treating women and girls in this country. Now, the usual saw might be about abortion or something. No, look what is happening. For girls and women in their sports, in their opportunities, you have men masquerading as women because they can't cut it on a men's team in sports, for example, so they switch over and just start competing on a women's team or girls' team in school.

How are we even at this point of entertaining this as a legitimate and wise way of doing things?

I keep asking, where are the feminist groups on this? Are they so locked into politics and being unified with the left that they are willing to sacrifice the futures of girls and young women in college with scholarships? Plus, the camaraderie of sports anyway, the goodness that comes from working as a team or those individual efforts you have in individual sports of excelling and finding that just dashed because there are a couple of biological males competing in that same sport with some of the built-in physical advantage they have in many sports, maybe not all but a lot of them.

We see them losing opportunities for scholarships at the college level or winning the gold medal in whatever sport it is.

I am glad to stand with the female athletes as they continue what has been a long fight to have that opportunity in sports. We have title IX coming along. We had some fits and starts getting there, but they deserve to have the same opportunities as men do.

It is a different fight these days. What we see is the left actually intentionally erasing women. Their opportunities are being taken. As I have said, the spaces on sports teams, filling out the rosters, with biological males on there, they lose scholarships, or on the podium, as they win their medals, being replaced with biological men.

Americans in these sports across the country are rightly outraged at what

has happened and what is happening to women's and girls' sports. I have signed on to several initiatives at the congressional level to protect women and girls, such as the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act that keeps men from taking scholarships, roster spots, and championship titles from women athletes.

Indeed, it is a point of insanity where we are with this. It is really unfair that they would have to even fight for this opportunity to compete on a stage, on a field, or what have you, with biological men; be pitted against them in contact sports, possibly physically harmed due to the physical advantages that are frequent, or the indignity of having to share a locker room space the way you are raised, with modesty, with the obvious separation of the sexes—up until this recent phenomena that seems to be having so much momentum amongst the left, amongst people who it seems like have really lost their sensibilities.

This is an effective silencing of the voices of female athletes, with the expectation to conform, all because of a gender identity ideology that is running amuck right now. Indeed, we are kind of a laughingstock as a country from some of the countries that are still developing their own sports and contemplating what the heck is it they are doing over there.

Women are being directly hurt by this, as I mentioned, with the physical harm, concussions, skull fractures, other injuries, and being pushed out of their opportunities by this intrusion of males.

It is imperative for the next generation of girls that they be able to grow up and know that they are cared about, that they are loved, that they matter, instead of just being erased from these opportunities. It is just unbelievable we have to talk about this.

Indeed, under this Biden era and others, my home State of California and several other States that are doing this, it is one crisis after another.

I want to talk about energy for a minute, too, because that is another unneeded crisis that is being inflicted upon the people of this country due to the cost.

Now, energy is the basis for so much of our economy and the cost of our economy. In my real life, I am a farmer. Before the 2022 crop, we saw the price of fuel double and the price of fertilizer triple. In 2023 it came back down a little bit. In my home State of California, it is still often normal to see \$5 fuel out on the roadway there. It is all because the day President Biden came in, he started having an anti-American energy policy, which is harming our ability to develop and transport natural gas, which is very important, for example, in fertilizer production, but also in warming grain storage around the country, putting warm air on the grain so it will dry out and stay preserved, and so many other forms of use of natural gas, heating homes and operating power plants.

With the miracle of hydraulic fracturing developed not that long ago, America came from being an energy user to the ability to be a major energy exporter. The prices came down so much that other countries were actually looking at locating more and more factories here because the cost of energy was going to be so low.

We have the Biden administration doing everything it can to cut off more development and usage of natural gas at the pass. Why is that? Natural gas burns cleanly. It is one of the good transition fuels as we move from other forms to that, but we still need all of them. We need all of them.

Hydroelectric power is clean, CO₂-free electricity, yet it is being pushed out as more and more dams—in my own district in northern California, four dams on the Klamath River are being attacked right now. One of them has already been taken down. Ostensibly, the idea is to save fish there, even though the fish historically really haven't traveled up the river the way it is claimed. They aren't true spawning grounds in a lake that is warm, Klamath Lake, and not ideal for this type of fish. Science doesn't seem to matter on that, because it is a political situation that is being hustled on us.

We are going to lose this hydroelectric at the same time that many are mandating by the year 2035 or 2045, or whatever they want to make up at the time, that we have to have X amount of electric cars or electric stoves or electric leaf blowers and lawnmowers. Heaven knows, we will be moving into trucks and trains and even airplanes.

They are taking away the ability to generate electricity, clean, CO₂-free, baseload power such as hydroelectric and really clean fossil fuel but still a very clean and efficient natural gas.

I have been attending a lot of seminars on nuclear energy as well. There is another CO₂-free power source that is baseload, that is dependable, that is 24/7. And we are having such difficulty procuring and permitting new nuclear plants. The technology has continued to improve and get better. For these smaller plants, it would be more ideal locating near cities where the technology, the safety is there, but we can't hardly talk about that. We have to have a breakthrough on that so we can be energy independent with low cost and what would appear to be renewable energy.

Renewable isn't just windmills and solar panels, which are really unreliable. We have the opportunity to have baseload power that would be low priced and available 24/7 with these technologies. We have roadblocks time and time again. They want to tear down dams. They want to get rid of natural gas. They are hesitant on nuclear energy. There just doesn't seem to be a solution for the left, because everything is "no." It isn't all going to be served by solar panels and windmills, because those are a tiny percent of our overall grid.

The rest of the world is going ahead with oil and gas development and usage. The curve is going way up around the rest of the world. It is only us and a couple other western countries that are hamstringing our ability to be energy independent, develop the energy we need, and have an economy here. Instead, we are going to export our economy to China and Asia.

We are harming ourselves by having this administration in charge with their wrong-headed, backward policies on this. We need energy independence. We can do it. We can do it cleanly and responsibly.

I mentioned CO₂ a couple times, CO₂ meaning climate change and the fear factor that is causing around the country. I remind you; CO₂ is only 0.04 percent of our atmosphere. When asked, the average person on the street who is busy with their lives doing what they do, they will typically guess, from all the hype, somewhere between 20 and 50 percent. No, it is 0.04 percent.

With the U.S. and a couple other western countries actually flattening their CO₂ production, even dipping down a little bit, it is certainly not us that would be the so-called problem. It is the continued export of jobs, export of economy, and export of manufacturing to places like China and the Pacific rim where they don't have nearly the protections.

As we keep talking about a carbon-free life and going zero carbon, it is actually not necessary. Because so little of the atmosphere is carbon dioxide anyway, it is not a threat. It is one that is used by government, by organizations, by international organizations, to try and control more and more of our economy and of our lives; taking away our vehicles, taking away our mobility, telling us we need to live in stacked communities instead of the way we live; running people off the rural areas like in my district and the western States, running people out of the cattle business and such by introducing wolves, decimating the deer and elk populations, as well as livestock; basically pushing people out that are productive people that serve all of those folks that make these policies that live in the cities.

I guess maybe they need to go to the end of the food line when they are talking about what they are doing to devastate agriculture, as well as these other industries that provide the minerals, electricity, energy, and everything they need.

There are so many crises that are unneeded in this country, I could go all day long, but I shouldn't. I hope people will take heart on this and look at what the policies are that are being made by the Biden administration, by Democrats in the Senate, and the majority in my home State of California, 3-1 Democrat majority with Governor Newsom, and the havoc that is being wreaked on the people of California with these wrongheaded policies. Certainly, I would invite the rest of the

country not to emulate what California does.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I served on the Natural Resources Committee with the gentleman from California. The point that we continually tried to make is that American innovation and American leadership need to be invested in.

The policies that are playing out and the rhetoric and all of hyperbole, it moves us away from improving the situation on anything related to energy. It is fascinating. He and I had a chance to spend a lot of time on that.

To further emphasize and discuss the bill we just recently passed, the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, is an incredibly important voice within our conference, from Pennsylvania's 13th District, and a physician himself. I look forward to hearing his thoughts.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his leadership and for holding this Special Order today.

Mr. Speaker, it was here in the U.S. Capitol, just a few hundred feet from where we are standing, that President Abraham Lincoln called on all of us "to care for him who shall have borne the battle."

Today, the House voted on legislation which will help us to carry on President Lincoln's promise. By passing the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act, the House voted to ensure that any patient using a Federal health program can never be turned away on the basis of using the quality-adjusted life years formulas.

Known as QALYs, these formulas have been used to determine if patients should receive certain medical treatments. In essence, this is rationing of medical care.

As a doctor, I treated patients at the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Blair County, Pennsylvania. Eliminating the use of these formulas for all Federal programs will ensure that our veterans will be able to receive the care and the treatment that they need and that they deserve, continuing the promise of Abraham Lincoln.

□ 1215

Further, this legislation will help to protect Americans with disabilities and those with chronic diseases as well as children who receive their healthcare through Federal programs like CHIP.

Today, I was proud to vote in favor of this legislation that protects patients' access to the latest medical technologies and to the latest innovations.

Proudly, I can say that this legislation passed the House, and proudly I can say that we have voted to protect American patients.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the doctor from Pennsylvania for his remarks. I appreciate his support on the bill and communicating the importance of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I welcome the gentleman from the Sixth District of Virginia to share his remarks.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the nearby State of Virginia (Mr. CLINE).

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for hosting this Special Order and for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I want to talk about a subject that is in the news right now: the crisis that has been created by this administration on the border and the intentional encouragement of millions of migrants to make a dangerous journey from across the globe to the United States. Crossing the border illegally, often seeking a better life, but declaring asylum when they have crossed the border illegally is not the solution.

Yesterday, we had a vote to impeach Secretary Mayorkas. That vote failed by a single vote. I thank the gentleman for his leadership in switching his vote to be with the prevailing side, so that he can perform the parliamentary maneuver and bring it back for a vote when we do have all of the supporters of impeachment in the House Chamber ready to vote. Hopefully, we will see that next week.

Madam Speaker, for over 2 years, the Biden administration has stood by their policies and watched as the worst border crisis in history continues to worsen. The results of these open-border policies speak for themselves. There have been over 1 million illegal migrant encounters since October, including 302,000 in December alone and 19 individuals on the terrorist watch list.

These policies have fueled a national fentanyl epidemic, put more money in the hands of cartels and human traffickers, opened the border to national security threats, and prevented ICE from deporting most of those here illegally, even convicted violent criminals and gang members.

What is extremely tragic about this crisis that we find ourselves in today is that most of this could have been prevented. The Biden administration assumed office with strong border security policies in place, and, yet, instead of taking responsibility and maintaining sound policies that would fix these issues and enforce our immigration laws, President Biden and the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, dismantled our border security.

We have given this administration all the tools that they need to do their job and secure the border. There are laws on the books that basically spell out exactly how to secure the border, how to detain those coming across the border illegally, and how to prevent those from coming across the border illegally, but this administration has actively worked to find every loophole and do just the opposite.

We, all 435 Members of this body, swore to defend the Constitution, yet the Department of Homeland Security Secretary, who took a similar oath,

has the audacity to come before Congress, the Judiciary Committee on which I am proud to serve, and lie under oath saying that we have operational control of the border. Secretary Mayorkas has the audacity to neglect his oath to safeguard the American people and our community, and this body must hold him accountable.

It is our duty to hold those accountable who neglect their duty, regardless of their position. Secretary Mayorkas has purposely and knowingly disregarded the rights and security of this country's citizens and failed in his responsibility to protect our homeland.

The American people rightfully deserve action. It is imperative that we, as Representatives of the people, ensure that those in positions of power are held to the highest standards of accountability. That is why I will continue to fight on behalf of my constituents, whom I am proud to serve every day, to continue to ensure their safety and hold Alejandro Mayorkas accountable for his dereliction of duty.

It is long past time we restore our Nation's rule of law and sovereignty. We must impeach Secretary Mayorkas, and it is my hope that we do so next week. The American people deserve better.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for sharing his perspective from his district just west of here. I think that is the point. A lot of folks come up and use this time to share a message in speaking to their constituents, but across the country this impacts everywhere. We use the terminology that every State is a border State, but it does impact everywhere.

Madam Speaker, again, we passed a very important healthcare bill today. Healthcare policy is oftentimes misunderstood and difficult to really communicate. That has continued on for decades.

I want to highlight some of the aspects of this bill that we just recently passed out of the House of Representatives. Before doing so, I wanted to use this moment to also highlight something that I have done from this podium before on why this moment, when we talk about all the crises that are going on—we have major turmoil going on in the Middle East, we have a border crisis, and we have inflation running rampant—in all of these different areas, I want the American people to know my perspective.

I want my constituents to know that right now the political reality is that we have what is called split government. We have a White House with a Democratic President and a Democratic Party. We have a Senate controlled by the Democratic Party, and we have a House of Representatives controlled by the Republican Party.

What the Republicans in the House of Representatives have been trying to do for just over the year that we have had as the majority—for a time we were in the minority—is to just highlight several different things.

Let me speak very plainly. The American Rescue Plan was passed several weeks after President Biden was inaugurated. What took place then was everything switched in Washington. When we have a split government like we do now, we usually, hopefully, get outcomes like we did with the tax package last week where Republicans and Democrats on committee sat down, looked through the entire Tax Code and realized that certain provisions had expired. They tried to uncover what the important aspects were of what we needed to accomplish.

We came to an amazing tax package that I have celebrated. I have celebrated along with my committee members; I have celebrated along with the entire House of Representatives and back home. I am so proud of the work that we did there. Oftentimes that is what creates a lot of really good results.

Returning to the American Rescue Plan, it was a \$1.9 trillion bill that within months created some of the worst inflation our Nation has seen in four decades. It is simple. When we add that much monetary supply and we have too much money chasing too few goods, then there is only one equation, and it is inflation.

When the Republicans took over the House of Representatives this last cycle, it is being reported all the time now that inflation is sort of squashed. These are simple equations. Republicans are putting the clamps on what President Biden tried to massively spend during his time when he had the White House, the House, and the Senate, because in that scenario, Madam Speaker, you don't have to even dialogue with the other party. I am proud of the work that Republicans have done in that scenario.

So I use that as an example. That is a simple equation. It is basic economic fundamentals. If we don't load up the monetary supply so much then you won't create this type of inflation, and we have been doing that. Prices are still high because a lot of these prices are here to stay, unfortunately. After a massive inflationary period, those prices stay high, but inflation is down. I am thrilled to have been a part of it and to be able to put the clamps on the Biden administration's spending appetite and get this back to a reasonable level.

The point that I am trying to draw a correlation on is we have been hitting this border issue for 3 years now, and we are going to continue to do this. It is now clear from all of the data and all of the polling—colleagues of mine from the Democratic side recognize that this isn't just a post-pandemic issue where we are overloaded on the border—we have a fundamental issue.

The thing that I am appreciative of on my side is just highlighting very specific and simple things that could be done to fix this. I wish we could do it legislatively, but they don't even need to be done legislatively. They are

simple things like re-implement the Migrant Protection Protocols or the remain in Mexico policy. This is the strongest signal to the cartels that says: You can't overrun our borders because through this asylum process, you will get put in the system, you will get a spot and you will get your case heard, but you are not allowed to be released.

It is the most simple and basic policy. If President Biden wanted to truly effect positive change at the border, then he would just re-implement things like the catch and release program. There are simple fixes to that, and I have highlighted it over and over again. I will continue to do that and to call this out. Hopefully, we can.

Even going forward, it is a tumultuous time in the House of Representatives and in the Senate right now about figuring out where to land on some of these negotiations. We cannot give up just because things seem difficult or overwhelming. We have got to be willing to find a way to massively improve our situation at the southern border.

Again, back to the legislation that we covered today and that we recently passed. This is another step to improve our healthcare system and ensure all patients get access to the best treatments and care that they need.

Chairwoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS' Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act will help ensure the value of lifesaving cures and treatments for people with disabilities is not discounted.

The bill will provide all Federal healthcare programs, including the VA and Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, as well as federally funded State healthcare programs like Medicaid, from using prices that are based on quality-adjusted life years or similar measures. Quality-adjusted life years are intended to measure the value of medical interventions relative to someone's condition and how it will impact the patient's longevity.

Nonetheless, this can devalue certain patients' lives and lead to picking winners and losers, ultimately taking the decision out of the hands of patients and their healthcare provider. A ban on quality-adjusted life years currently only applies in Medicare, so by extending this prohibition to all Federal payers, we show people with disabilities and chronic illnesses that we value and cherish their lives and their ability to get the care they need.

This is particularly important in Medicaid and the VA. Medicaid serves a large population of people with disabilities, and the VA, as we know, cares for injured veterans and those with service-related disabilities like the brave men and women who serve at Hill Air Force Base in Utah's First Congressional District.

This policy also protects the ability of payers to use utilization management tools and other measures to determine cost effectiveness to keep our

healthcare costs down, so long as those measures are not discriminatory.

The Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act is widely supported by leading advocacy organizations that support vulnerable patients with chronic diseases or people with disabilities ranging from The ALS Association, to Autism Speaks, to the National Down Syndrome Society among many, many others.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman RODGERS for her passion for these issues. I urge the Senate to take this up and to seriously consider it, not to look on party lines, and pass this legislation. There is merit to this, and it will go and serve vulnerable populations.

Again, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for being willing to come and share their message. I appreciate their willingness to always come and do this and be a part of our Special Order.

I will end with just saying there are simple fixes to a lot of this, and we cannot continue to make it so difficult.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH OVERVIEW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, each year in February, we have the opportunity to study the past and use it as a learning tool to move closer to a future of social equity for all. As we are now in the midst of Black History Month, it is both fitting and necessary that we look inward to our own communities and the legacy of the pioneers who paved the way.

From the foundations of our great State to the present time, Michigan's Seventh District, which I am proud to represent, has been home to many pioneering Black men, women, and organizations who have made significant contributions to every aspect of life in our State.

□ 1230

The great State of Michigan stood tall as an anti-slavery State in the Civil War and played an important role in aiding Freedom Seekers on their path via the Underground Railroad.

Today, Michigan is a hub of arts, culture, athletics, and innovation, thanks

to the contributions of our diverse citizenry who call it home.

It is my profound honor, for the fourth time annually, to highlight stories of Black Michiganders, past and present, from the Seventh District and to read their stories into the archives of this great Chamber.

HONORING THE CANADY FAMILY

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to a legendary Lansing family that has broken barriers across generations and continues to make history to this very day.

The story begins in 1927 when the family matriarch, Ms. Hortense Canady, was born in Chicago. While she didn't grow up in Michigan, she came to Michigan State University to pursue her graduate studies after attending Fisk University, where she met her husband, Clinton.

In the Lansing area, Hortense and Clinton, a World War II veteran and member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, settled, put down roots, and left an indelible mark on our community.

Clinton became a well-known and well-loved dentist, while Hortense put her passion for education and civil rights into action, becoming the first African American elected to the Lansing School Board of Education in 1968. Four years later, she and several other board members were recalled for advocating for desegregation, but Hortense did not let that deter her from working toward her core belief that everyone deserves access to quality education.

She sat on the State's Women's Commission, served as the first executive director of the Lansing Community College Foundation, and helped fund a debutante club in Lansing to fill a void for young Black women, who at the time were not permitted to share in this tradition.

Hortense founded the Lansing alumnae chapter of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, and served as its national president from 1983 to 1988. She was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 2002 and was named one of Ebony magazine's Most Influential People. Hortense Canady died in 2010 at the age of 83.

Not only was Hortense Canady impressive in her own right, but her children have continued to blaze their own trails.

Her daughter, Alexa Canady, is the first African-American woman in the Nation to be a neurosurgeon and served as the chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan from 1987 until her retirement in 2001. She devoted her brilliant mind and numerous talents to healing and welfare for thousands of young patients over the course of her career. Like her mother, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She was also named a Michigander of the Year by the Detroit News in 2002.

All three of Hortense Canady's sons became attorneys, including the Honorable Judge Clinton Canady III. Before ascending to the bench, Canady

practiced law for 37 years. He was a founder of the Lansing Black Lawyers' Association, director of the Ingham County Bar Association, a commissioner for the Lansing Board of Water and Light, a member of the NAACP, and served on the board of the Lansing Symphony Association, Central Michigan Legal Aid, and so many other organizations.

Elected to the Ingham County Circuit Court in 2010, Judge Canady served through his retirement in 2022 but returned on assignment to help address the backlog of cases during the COVID pandemic.

He and his wife, Rita, have two children who are continuing the Canady tradition of service, one as an administrative law judge in California and the other at the United States Department of State.

The Canady family is part of the very fabric of the Lansing community, a fabric stitched with their incredible work ethic and commitment to breaking new ground and to clearing a path for others to follow.

Madam Speaker, I ask that their accomplishments be forever enshrined in the permanent RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING ELSIE MCPHERSON-BROWN

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I honor the groundbreaking service of a Livingston County woman who never even planned to live in the area, much less to make history there. Fortunately, life had its own plans for Elsie McPherson-Brown, and the community is so much better for it.

Livingston County sits at the crossroads of several major highways, and when Elsie McPherson-Brown was driving one of them to go visit family and friends, she took a wrong turn and ended up in the northern community of Hartland, Michigan.

Elsie liked what she saw on that unexpected outing. After further investigation, including meeting with the superintendent and school principals, she convinced her husband to relocate to Hartland from Detroit with their two elementary school-aged boys.

It is worth noting that Livingston County was and is to this day an overwhelmingly White community, but Elsie and her family were undeterred. From the beginning of their time in Hartland, Elsie dove into community service, volunteering in her kids' classrooms, chairing teacher appreciation day events, and serving on the PTO.

In 2003, Elsie took her service to a new and historic level when she successfully ran for the Board of Education of Hartland Consolidated Schools, becoming the first African-American woman and only the second African American in modern history to be elected to public office in Livingston County.

Her story is not without challenges, particularly when it comes to race relations. She often shares how a grocery store manager insisted her personal check was fraudulent because he re-

fused to believe that a Black woman was living in Livingston County at the address that was stated. There were local police officers who questioned her youngest son and refused to believe he was heading home for the same reason.

Elsie chose to rise above and set her focus and her intention on the things that she loved about the community and the commonalities she shared with her friends and neighbors.

Supported by the voters, Elsie served 10 years on the school board and fulfilled her goal of having a voice and shaping the education of the next generation.

She was known for her calm demeanor, her colorful outfits, and the many hats she wore about town, perhaps representative of the different hats she wore in life: wife, mother, advocate, trailblazer.

While she has stepped down from public office, today she continues her life of quiet service to the community in her work in the Livingston County Sheriff's Office.

Elsie McPherson-Brown may have stumbled upon Hartland accidentally, but it is no accident that she changed the course of Hartland's history.

Madam Speaker, her story deserves to be told, uplifted, and forever preserved here in the permanent RECORD of the people's House.

HONORING DR. SAMUEL EDWARD HOLLOWAY

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I honor a man who was a trailblazer in athletics and education and used his talents to break barriers and change the lives of generations of young people.

Dr. Samuel Edward Holloway lived to serve others: his Nation, his community, and his family. It is fitting that as we mark Black History Month, we shine a light on his place in the history of Michigan's Seventh District and the many doors he opened for others to pass through.

Before he was Dr. Holloway, he was simply Sam. He was a young man who came to Michigan with his father and left the Deep South as part of the Great Migration north.

After spending his childhood in various parts of the Midwest, Sam and his family settled in Michigan in the 1940s, where he would eventually join the Ann Arbor High School class of 1951.

Sam's athletic abilities were evident from a very young age. He was crowned State champion in his wrestling class during his high school years. Also clear was his desire to use his life for the greater good as he enlisted in the United States Army upon graduation and was honorably discharged in 1953.

It was then that Sam began embarking on what would become his lifelong calling: public education. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastern Michigan University, during which time he also began his teaching career.

So it was, at the height of the civil rights movement in 1963, when Samuel Edward Holloway became the first

Black faculty member in the history of South Lyon Public Schools. During his tenure there, he was credited with becoming the first Black person to serve as head wrestling coach for any high school team in the State of Michigan.

Eventually, Sam earned his Ph.D. in education and went on to serve in numerous districts, including Ypsilanti Public Schools and Romulus Public Schools.

In the late 1970s, he became a building administrator at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor, a full-circle moment for a man who had graduated from that very district.

He held that post until his retirement in 1990, a retirement that he and his wife, Janet, enjoyed to the fullest. Still an athlete at heart and in practice, Holloway competed each year in the Arizona Senior Olympics and rode his motorcycle across the United States and Europe.

Dr. Samuel Edward Holloway passed away in 2022, leaving behind his devoted wife, his four children, a large and loving extended family, and an incredible legacy.

Dr. Holloway didn't set out to be a pioneer. He simply wanted to do the things he loved in service to others.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the permanent RECORD of the people's House reflect his groundbreaking contributions and the gratitude of the institutions forever changed by his presence.

HONORING ORRIN AND LUVINA WILSON

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to two of the most beloved residents to ever call the St. Johns, Michigan, community home: Orrin and Luvina Wilson.

Settling in Clinton County post-Civil War, the Wilsons were a "power couple" before the term existed, but it was never about seeking power for themselves. Rather, the Wilsons lived their lives in quiet but devoted and groundbreaking service to their Nation and to their neighbors, and forever changed the face of St. Johns.

Orrin was just 16 years old in 1864 when he enlisted in Michigan's all-Black regiment, the 102nd United States Colored Infantry, Company K, out of Kalamazoo, Michigan. He served until the war's end and returned to Michigan, where he met and married his bride.

The two would soon settle in St. Johns, where they lived for the next 60 years. In addition to his military service, Orrin was a trailblazer in so many ways.

First, he took up the trade of barbering and owned his shop for nearly 50 years, serving a mostly White clientele out of the old Steel Hotel in downtown St. Johns.

He was also a founding member of the local chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, a national union of Civil War veterans, and served as its post commander for a time. Not only was he the only Black member of the St. Johns Charles Grisson Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, it is believed that he is the only Black man in

the State of Michigan to hold such a leadership position outside of the all-Black posts in cities like Detroit.

Luvina was a trailblazer in her own right, serving as president of the local chapter of the Women's Relief Corps, an auxiliary organization of the Grand Army of the Republic. The WRC not only supported the mission to aid Union veterans but also assisted former Army nurses and promoted patriotism through education. Just like her husband, Luvina is believed to be the only Black woman in the State to have ever led an all-White post.

Orrin and Luvina raised their two sons together, George and Arthur, who continued the family barbering trade. The family was active in St. Johns United Methodist Church, where Orrin served as a trustee and treasurer for three decades. They were married for 58 years, linked by their common goal of creating a better, more just community and Nation.

United, they also were in death, leaving this world just 1 day apart in late December 1928. The two were buried together in the veterans section of the Mt. Rest Cemetery, with flags flown at half-mast and a large funeral procession going past the family home on South Clinton Avenue.

Madam Speaker, may their life story and memory be a blessing and an inspiration to all of us, forever preserved here in the permanent RECORD of the people's House.

HONORING MIKE GARLAND

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I pay tribute to a basketball coaching legend who helped lead the Michigan State University Spartans men's basketball team to 19 NCAA tournaments, 10 Big Ten championships, 7 Final Fours, and a national championship.

As impressive as those statistics are, former MSU Assistant Coach Mike Garland quite literally came back from the dead and is now using his second chance at life to pay this incredible gift forward.

As much as Mike Garland loved coaching basketball, and as many great things as his teams accomplished on the court, he was content with his decision to retire from MSU in June 2022. He was looking forward to spending more time with his wife, his kids, and his grandkids.

Not long after, however, he went into cardiac arrest while driving his car. Fortunately, two Good Samaritans were driving by at the time. They saw Garland's car go off the road and into a tree. They called 911 and performed CPR until paramedics and police arrived. In total, 13 people worked on Garland for an agonizing 18 minutes to restart his heart.

It turned out the electrical failure in Garland's heart was the result of a birth defect, one that required open heart surgery to fix. Three months later, Garland was back up and running, quite literally, on the treadmill. Not long after that, he honored all of those who helped save his life with an

emotional public thank-you at the MSU Breslin Center, home to many of his greatest coaching moments.

□ 1245

Today, the Breslin Center is also home court for his new passion: a foundation he launched called Champions of the Heart.

Through this nonprofit, Garland works to inform the Spartan community and others on how to save lives during episodes of cardiac arrest.

Attendees at these free trainings learn how to perform CPR, how to recognize sudden cardiac arrest, and how to use an automatic external defibrillator.

Mike Garland is a man who has lived two lives, both defined by statistics. In the first, his focus was on wins, losses, and free-throw percentages.

His second life, however, is summed up in a single stark numerical reality: Only one person in ten survives a cardiac arrest.

For all he has done to defy the odds and change the course of history for himself and for others, I ask that his story be recorded in the permanent RECORD of the people's House.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND LILLIAN ARCHIBALD

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a woman who defied not only the odds but her own family's wishes to become a pioneer in the pulpit at a landmark Black church in Livingston County, Michigan.

Though her father was a devout Baptist preacher in the early part of the 20th century, Lillian Archibald was taught from a young age that ministry was strictly for men. The fourth of five children, Lillian's father was clear in his message to his daughters: Love the Lord, but find another calling of work.

Skeptical but obedient, Lillian attended a business college in her hometown of Memphis and spent time as a missionary before starting a family of her own. Tragically, the youngest of her four children was killed in 1977 in a crash between a car and a train.

Despite her profound grief, Lillian took solace in her unshakable faith and made the decision that it was time to answer the call that had been placed upon her heart.

Lillian enrolled at Payne Theological Seminary and enlisted in the ministry at age 50. She spent some time as an itinerant elder before being ordained as a full minister in 1985. And, of course, she broke the news to her father, who she says grew very quiet before finally giving his blessing.

She brought that blessing to Michigan, first serving 6 years assisting the pastor at a church in Jackson, Michigan, before being assigned to pastor St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in Brighton—the only African-American church in predominantly White Livingston County in 1990.

With her melodic voice and charismatic style, Reverend Archibald is credited with breathing new life and hope into her congregation where she stayed for 4 years.

During her tenure, the church grew in size and in spirit, and began reaching out to the community and joining other churches with a sense of common purpose and passion.

Though her time in Livingston County was brief, her impact was profound. She received numerous recognitions for her commitment to community, including her work with victims of domestic violence at the Women's Resource Center in Howell and her efforts to shelter the unhoused through Habitat for Humanity.

Perhaps one of her greatest gifts was the mentorship she offered to other women contemplating the ministry. Reverend Archibald is still warmly remembered today by many of them as a compassionate guide and a listening ear.

Just as her courageous ministry and her golden voice still guide the work of St. James AME Church, I ask that her memory be forever enshrined in the permanent RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING RODNEY WHITAKER AND XAVIER DAVIS

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to two members of the Michigan State University faculty who have contributed to the rich artistic landscape of our great State and helped shape the next generation of musical talent, all set to a distinctive jazz beat.

As a young recording artist in Detroit, Rodney Whitaker likely never imagined he would one day build and lead one of the most distinguished jazz degree programs and performing faculties in the world. But the legendary bassist known for his distinctive "bear-sized" tones, today serves as director of jazz studies at MSU, a program he has transformed into a world-class training ground whose students have gone on to perform alongside some of the top jazz artists in the world.

It is a case of those who can do, teach. Whitaker himself spent 7 years as a bassist with Wynton Marsalis' Septet and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, followed by a quarter-century touring around the world, collaborating and performing with legendary jazz artists from Dizzy Gillespie to Diana Krall.

He continues to teach master classes at universities around the world, all while serving as the artistic director at the MSU Professors of Jazz, the East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, the Dr. Phillips Center Jazz Orchestra in Orlando, Florida, and the Gathering Orchestra in Detroit to name a few of his many involvements.

He has earned one of the highest distinctions in academia, the title of University Distinguished Professor of Jazz Bass and he is proud to serve as a special assistant to the dean's office, directing the College of Music's diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging efforts.

In 2006, he was nominated for the Juno Award, Canada's equivalent to

the Grammy, and in 2011, he received an Emmy nomination.

Just last year, he was named 2023 Detroit Jazz Hero by the Jazz Journalists Association.

But strip away all the titles, all the awards, and Whitaker is simply a man who understands the power of the gift that he has been given and the necessity to pass it on. In his own words, Dr. Rodney Whitaker said: That is my truth. I love passing on the knowledge of the history of music, and it is life-changing to see that lightbulb go off in someone. It certainly changed my life.

For all the lives he has enriched, changed, and set to music, I ask that his contributions forever live here in the permanent RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to shine a light on the incredible accomplishments of another member of the Michigan State University jazz community: Associate professor of jazz piano, Xavier Davis.

It was 1994 and Xavier Davis, then a college student from Grand Rapids, Michigan, was performing with a small ensemble at a convention in Boston when his tunes caught the ear of the legendary jazz vocalist Betty Carter, a native of Flint, Michigan. Carter scooped him up and brought him to New York, hiring him to work exclusively as a pianist for her jazz trio.

Davis spent many years in New York, cultivating his talent, learning from and playing with some of the greatest names in jazz, including: Carl Allen, James Williams, Billy Hart, Regina Carter, and Wynton Marsalis. He served as musical director for the Boys Choir of Harlem during its 1999–2000 season, he played keyboard for the television series “The Cosby Show,” and has been featured on more than 50 albums, including a Grammy-winning collaboration with Christian McBride in 2012.

We are so fortunate that after 6 years of teaching at the famed Juilliard School in New York, Davis brought his talents back home and has been teaching jazz piano at Michigan State University since 2014.

In addition to the many students who have benefited from his instruction, Davis has also dedicated himself to uplifting his own hometown of Detroit through his music.

Supported by a grant from Michigan State University’s Humanities and Art Research program, Davis began composing music about Detroit, which eventually became a powerful album titled “Rise Up Detroit.”

Through his music, Davis focused on the role Detroit has played in the lives of African Americans and in the world at large, highlighting the Underground Railroad, the Great Migration, and the boom days of the auto industry.

Professor Davis is a gifted composer, arranger, and producer of music, and widely recognized as one of the most accomplished jazz pianists in the world. He is also a proud Michigander,

continually giving back to the community and the State that put the music in his soul. While he is a recording artist, it is my distinct pleasure to record his accomplishments and convey my gratitude for his contributions here in the permanent RECORD of the people’s House.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

OUR GREATEST EXISTENTIAL THREAT RIGHT NOW IS THE BORDER PROBLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 30 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, indeed, I spoke a little earlier about how we seem to have hopped from self-made crisis to self-made crisis in this Chamber, in this Capitol, in this town, whether it is by legislative action, executive action, or bureaucratic action, but what the American people are suffering from most is government caused.

It really isn’t a condition of weather or nature or even so much our adversaries around the world—and those are all factors and they all can be factors—but they pale compared to crises that are, indeed, caused by the actions of the government in Washington, D.C., in my home State, and so many of them right there in Sacramento.

We are talking energy. We are talking fiscal. We are talking a business climate that is hampered by unreasonable regulations. We are talking about things as simple as women and girls’ sports. Why should that be complicated? Yet it is.

And the one that is probably the most difficult and the greatest existential threat right now to our country immediately is the border problem. This porous border has been made that way pretty much since day two of the Biden administration. It certainly wasn’t perfect before that, but my hat’s off to President Trump in his term for trying as much as he can to do something about it, by building the wall, continuing to build the wall, repair old sections of the wall. He met resistance just about every step of the way.

Indeed that infrastructure makes it so much easier and simpler for our border personnel to be able to track who is coming across the border and basically funnel them to the areas where border entry can be properly processed with a plan in place, with rules in place, with laws in place that would make that expedient and actually beneficial to our country, and also less harmful to those that would wish to come here, to immigrate here, to seek jobs, to seek citizenship, what have you.

In an orderly society, we need to have control of the border and invite people to come be part of what this country has to offer. That is what immigration used to be many decades ago. It slipped away from us.

We hear all day long, oh, the immigration system is broken. Well, it is broken because it is not being enforced. Now, we could add to the laws that we have in the books there and refine them, such as the interpretation of asylum which is wide open these days. Asylum used to be more reserved for people that were being subject to abuse by a regime in the country they lived in. They would be subject to much persecution, religious persecution, political persecution, what have you.

We understand that. We saw that in World War II and pre-World War II in Europe with what happened to the Jews there. The United States didn’t act quickly enough in that situation, but at least we understand what asylum should look like. What we have now is basically people presenting themselves at the border, if they are not just sneaking right past, and saying a few magic words to the personnel and then they are taken into custody temporarily, given a number and maybe even a fictitious name, and allowed to move on through.

I have been to that border. I have witnessed what that looks like. Indeed, we have buses going back and forth patrolling the border not to keep the border closed or enforced, but picking people up so they can sooner get them to processing centers. We are paying for that. It is like a giant welcome wagon that has been turned into such by this Biden administration.

Now President Trump, as I said, tried really hard to get a handle on this, and improvements were made with several hundred miles of new, strong border fence and repaired old fence. Also, the border personnel felt like we appreciated them. We appreciated their jobs. We appreciated the effort they are making.

Nowadays, I think they are just completely overwhelmed, and I can’t imagine the morale is very good when they are basically told that they are to be part of running the welcome wagon and just letting people in. We hear anecdotes about them welding the gates open where they are, actually in Texas. Are you kidding me?

The State of Texas through their own National Guard has been making efforts to control parts of their border there, putting up wire and other measures that will help control some distance on their border.

□ 1300

You have the Biden administration threatening them and bringing lawsuits against them, and who knows, maybe even a confrontation with Federal troops versus Texas National Guard at some point in order for the Federal Government to be tearing down the barrier in order to preserve our border and have some semblance of order instead of the chaos that has been introduced and exacerbated by the Biden administration.

How does this make a lick of sense to anybody, to tear down the barrier that,

indeed, the Federal Government should have built up to begin with?

Now, let's talk about the barrier itself a little bit. We are not a country that is going to completely close it off. We welcome legal immigration. I shouldn't have to say that. It has always been who we are. Legal immigration, one that goes through process, one that our own people, our own government decides how many people we want to have enter under the different programs, under the different categories, how many should we have this year apply for citizenship.

That number is way up from what it was five, six decades ago where I believe the stats are somewhere around 800,000 or 900,000 new legal immigrants, new citizens per year as I think I have it, whereas the number might have been around 200,000 back 50 or 60 years ago. It is a dramatic increase of us welcoming legal citizens over that time.

Others that would apply for work permits, education visas, travel visas, different categories. All we ask is that you follow a set of rules. Go through a process. That is not unreasonable.

I always liken it to when you leave your home, most likely you probably lock your doors on your house. Maybe you even set an alarm. Maybe you have a fence around your house, your property. Is it because you hate your neighbors, because you hate somebody else that might come by? No, it is because it is your security, it is your responsibility.

There are people who are going to be led into temptation. Look how many packages get stolen off front porches because the deliverer just leaves it there. I guess that is the agreement. That is rampant these days. What if that door was unlocked? The same people who are bold enough to steal packages off your front porch wouldn't have any hesitation to go inside and clean you out at well.

Look what they are doing to retail stores while clerks and employees helplessly watch them cart off phones and watches and whatever other merchandise they can get while their corporate edict is don't dare talk to them, don't follow them with a camera, don't get their license plate. Heaven knows you wouldn't want to try to detain them in any way, as we see more and more of the corporate world become spineless in controlling the chaos.

We see this affecting mostly our very large cities, which politically tend to be the blue cities, Democrat-controlled mayors and city councils, supervisors, like that. They have chaos like hasn't ever been seen in this country when you talk about crisis. Part of this is soft on crime, part of it is soft on border, soft on what they call immigration. This isn't immigration, it is an invasion.

Immigration would imply that there is a legal process to it. Again, we still welcome legal immigration to this country. We always have. That is the part that gets caught up in the blatant

misinformation placed out there, because Republicans want to have order. They want to have something that will preserve the sovereignty of this country and preserve all the infrastructure within it.

I mean, when you look at the cities here, take New York City, where they are filling up community centers and school rooms and gyms and national parks with—they use the term “migrants.” A migrant is a euphemism. This is an illegal immigrant invasion. They are getting angry because people are bussing them in from Texas, Florida, and wherever else. The border States are overloaded. California, which I represent a part of, is one of those border States along with Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Truly, though, it ends up pretty much all of our States in effect are border States because you have the Biden administration flying these folks around the country and placing them wherever they see fit.

It is interesting to see. They squawk about maybe the Governor of Texas and Florida and some others bussing them to their city where they proclaim they are a sanctuary city, we welcome you, we want you to come in, as the Governor of New York and the mayor of New York City have claimed in the past, and then are backtracking on now because the numbers have finally caught up to them even though they have been warned and warned and warned by those of us who can see what that is going to look like.

Why do we put in place people who allow a system like this to happen, to foster a system that is so, indeed, broken as it is? We have the laws. We have the rules, and we even passed in this House a good piece of legislation, H.R. 2, to refine those rules.

You hear people saying: Oh, you Republicans are full of hooey on that because you say, on the one hand, enforce the laws you have, but on the other, why do you want this new law to come in? Well, because they are not doing the job. Asylum needs to be refined, it looks like.

Now, if you had a different administration that was on the side of the American people and on the side of enforcing the law, you could probably interpret asylum as it was originally intended, for those who indeed are facing a crisis due to an oppressive government.

However, no, it has been interpreted to be just pretty much wide open. Our border is a sieve. When I visited the border, you see people coming through a coyote process or paying people big money, otherwise their lives might be harmed by the coyote system they have down there, the cartels.

I saw pretty nice people coming across. There were families and such like that. These aren't bad people at heart. They are breaking the law, but when you leave a great big green light there saying come on in, I guess I can't blame them, but the people you are

talking about aren't necessarily persecuted by a government in such fashion but, more, they are seeking economic opportunity. Nine out of ten or more are seeking economic opportunity, seeking a job, seeking the promise.

You hear the Democrats, you hear people in the media saying: All they want is to come and seek a better life. Well, sure, but the life of this country, the lives of the citizens who are already here, those who came here legally, came here properly, and those who have been here, born here as citizens, they are paying the freight on all this because you are bringing folks in who haven't been brought up in the American way, haven't been educated in our ways, probably don't speak the language in many, many cases, may not even have a skill to bring so that they can self-sustain themselves and their family.

It will be maybe low-skilled labor that probably won't pay their own way. That is chaotic, and that is not how our immigration system used to work. One hundred years ago, however many decades ago, you had to offer something that is going to strengthen our country to be an immigrant here.

Now, again, we will hear, oh, that is so closed minded, it is so oppressive and so hateful because that is the only play they have. They keep going to the well on that, call it xenophobia or racism or whatever. No, the greatness of this country is in its process, in its Constitution, in its stability and people who respect that and uphold that, uphold the Constitution, uphold the laws.

The lawlessness we are seeing at the border, as untold numbers are coming across daily, I am glad to see this idea that was coming from the Senate on an immigration bill has pretty much lost any momentum because, at a minimum, according to the pieces I am reading on it, 5,000 people would be allowed across the border per day before they take any action on it.

Now, let's say you are a retailer, all right? You are seeing all the break-ins and the rip-offs and the looting going on. What if you had a rule in your city that said we have to let five thieves in per day to your retail center and they can fill up their bags as much as they want, but on the sixth one we will go ahead and start enforcing on it. We will call the police, detain, whatever.

What kind of crazy idea is that, as well as so many other holes that are in this package?

The first place we start: enforce the border, finish building the fence so that our border personnel are not so overwhelmed and put them back to their real jobs of not just processing people as fast as they can and turning them loose in our country, which maybe they will show up for an asylum hearing in 8 or 10 years and become so entrenched in the country illegally that you can't find them or you can't deport them if you wanted to. That is part of

it. That is part of the chaos that is being fostered.

Where I represent in California, which indeed is a border State, I represent the north end of it, which is about 600 miles from the border itself, but we see the secondary effects of illegal immigration, it keeps growing. When I say "grow," it is literal because what we have in part of my district and some of the southern California districts as well is a proliferation of illegal marijuana grows, many, many acres of them.

There are hundreds of greenhouses that our rural counties are just overwhelmed trying to deal with. There has been a passive response by the Department of Justice, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Biden administration, and our own California administration led by Governor Newsom with soft-on-crime policies.

This changes the landscape of a rural community, having all these marijuana grows and the cartels and all the filth that comes with that—the environmental damage, the people who are abused. Sometimes even slave labor is involved with people captive out there because nobody knows who they are, where they are, let alone having a permit to build these facilities or take the water from somewhere else in order to have the marijuana grow.

Today's marijuana, which is a much more powerful product, brings with it the whole litany of gang activity as this product is moved up and down, in my area, say, Interstate 5, but all over the West, all over the country even.

Illegal immigration has a lot of side effects. The marijuana proliferation, as I mentioned, of course the fentanyl is coming across the border and infecting and destroying so many lives. It goes on and on and on because this administration and our own Governor in California, that administration, continue to foster this lawlessness, soft-on-crime, soft-on-border policy that is doing us so much damage and is probably the biggest problem we face along with our massive deficit and the crunch that is coming from that.

I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) to talk more about that. I greatly respect him and the work he has done on this area on the border. He has been very diligent on putting this out in front of the people and pointing out what a crisis this is to our country and its existence.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California. A week ago, I stood at this microphone and talked about five stories that I think the mainstream press has left uncovered or undercovered. I always felt that under our Constitution, we have three branches of government. Now we are in a lot of trouble. When I think of the three branches of government, I think which one would disappoint our forefathers the most. I think it would be the judiciary, which doesn't have an adequate respect for the U.S. Constitution.

Our Constitution also presupposed an active press corps doing a good job of informing the public of the issues of the day. I don't think these issues have been adequately covered. One more time, I would just like to touch upon what I believe are five key issues that have been in the news but undercovered by the press.

The first one is what is going on at our border. In December, we hit a new all-time high of the number of people crossing the border and staying in this country. That was 370,000. Sometimes the press and for whatever reason some of my colleagues talk about the number of contacts with Border Patrol. They do not talk about the number of people let in the country. The 370,000 is easily the highest amount we have had in a month. By point of reference under the prior administration, the number let in per month in the final year would vary from 5,000 to 20,000 people a month.

□ 1315

We are now increasing by a factor of about 18 to 1, and it creates the biggest threat to the future of our Republic that is out there.

In addition to the 370,000 people crossing the border, all of which will be schooled here, all of which, as promised in his election bid, will receive free medical care. By the way, I should point out that many Americans don't get free medical care. They are either uninsured or have \$20,000 deductibles.

No, our President has promised the new immigrants here free, unlimited healthcare. With those people come, depending on the month, 8,000 to 10,000 unaccompanied minors.

We do not allow 7- or 8-year-olds to wander around the country if they are born here. We are now getting, depending on the month, 800 to 1,000 unaccompanied minors, obviously a recipe for human trafficking, obviously a recipe for being mistreated, being allowed to work in factories all hours.

The administration has not done anywhere near an adequate job of keeping track of these folks and where they are.

They have intentionally said they are not going to be giving out DNA tests so that if somebody wants to be a sponsor and claims to be an uncle for little Missy, we have no idea whether that is true or not.

Depending upon who is doing the counting, we have lost somewhere between 30,000 and 80,000 of these unaccompanied minors somewhere in the country.

For a press corps that in the past had concerns about families being broken up, that only happened for a couple of weeks at a time and only when it was absolutely necessary. Here we have tens of thousands of young children without either parent, possibly never seeing them again.

It is a story that ought to be talked about, and there ought to be graphs on the front page of every newspaper in

the country that we are now letting in 370,000 people.

It should also be more accurately covered the number of people who are dying of preventable overdoses in narcotics. We are over 100,000 a year.

I am old enough to remember the Vietnam war, where there was great concern as we lost 57,000 American servicemen over 12 years. Madam Speaker, 57,000 American servicemen over 12 years—over 100,000 people killed every year by illegal drugs crossing our southern border.

I think the mainstream media ought to do more to point this out. If people die in a murder, if people die in a car accident, it always makes the local pages.

This is far more than the number of murders plus car accidents every year, and we ought to do a better job of educating the public about the number of people dying in any individual county. That is an underreported story and will result in the end of America.

We do report that there is currently a war going on between Hamas and Israel, and it has been reported that that war was started 100 percent by Hamas, which stormed across the border, raping women, cutting the heads off of little children, killing over a thousand people.

I think some members of the American public believe the reason this war began is that, in some fashion, Palestinians were being mistreated by being adjacent to Israel. This is not true at all, and it has been underreported what a potentially good situation one had prior to this war if one lived in Gaza.

During the initial horrific invasion, some people may have noticed that some of the people killed were from Thailand. Other people may have noticed that some of the people who were held hostage were from Thailand. I don't think the mainstream media has done a good job of explaining why that was. It is because if you lived in Gaza or near Gaza, there were all sorts of good jobs that were made available by being at or near Israel.

It recently appeared in the paper that up to 25,000 people from Ecuador wanted to move to Israel to take these jobs. These jobs are better jobs than almost anywhere else in the Arab world. Indeed, why would people from Ecuador or people from Thailand come from halfway around the world to live in Israel? Because it is a wonderful place to live; people are well paid; and even though you are leaving your family behind, it is a highly desirable life.

I think if one considers the number of people from other parts around the world who are coming to Israel to work, one would realize that the case that Hamas has made to society as a whole, that they were a put-upon minority, disappears. It shows 100 percent of the sympathy in the current conflict or the beginning of the conflict should stand with Israel.

Israel right now is looking to put forth agreements with other countries

of people who want to come and take jobs, many of which used to be taken by Palestinians. People from the Philippines and people from Vietnam are also going to be coming to Israel because of the huge economic progress that is made by the Jews in Israel as they have taken a land that was considered almost entirely a wasteland 60 years ago and turned it into one of the most modern countries in the world.

I will also point out that Israel is a very tolerant country. In Gaza itself, run by the Palestinians, they would not have any Jewish temples. In Israel proper, there are over 400 Muslim mosques, which operate and are allowed to operate by the Israeli Government.

I think if we are going to educate the American public about what is going on in this Hamas-Israel war, we have to let the American public know how many people wish they could come to Israel to work.

The next issue—and I talk to people about this all the time when I go back home, and we will talk about it again—is the attitude of the new head of the Joint Chiefs, General Brown, toward his diversity initiative.

Now, traditionally, America has gotten where it is by being a meritocracy, and people advance whether they are good or bad. Of all the parts of society, the part of society that had better never cease to be number one is our American military.

Nevertheless, the head of the Joint Chiefs has publicly said he wants to reduce the number of White male officers from something in the 60 percents down to, I believe, 42 percent, 44 or 42 percent.

Again, this is a fundamental change in the way the military has naturally done things. They want to operate like a little second-rate community college in which they are more concerned about race or where people's great-great-grandparents were born than about making sure we have the right person for the job.

I think this is something that should be discussed more, even though General Brown has been confirmed, and finding out what exactly is being done in achieving this goal.

On a subcommittee that I am fortunate enough to chair, we had a hearing on this topic. We found out that there is a perception, which probably is true, that people who are White are treated poorly. As a result, we are not meeting our recruiting goals because White people are realizing, perhaps accurately, that they are going to have a hard time in the military.

When it comes time to be promoted, they are going to be viewed hostilely. I think that is something we must look at more.

The next thing to talk about is that we have tax credits that are benefiting the wealthiest developers in our society. We are expanding the use of those credits under the tax bill that I voted for because of other good provisions

and the tax law passed a couple of weeks ago.

I personally think the low-income section 42 tax credits are the worst in the tax code. They give money to well-heeled developers. They are allowed to have 70 percent of their building paid for by the government, a lavish subsidy in which the already wealthy members of society become wealthier still.

Finally, I would mention the prayer breakfast we had a week ago, which is something else that has been understated. We will talk about that next week.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Deirdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE WIDESPREAD HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN AND THE POTENTIAL FOR A DEEPENING ECONOMIC COLLAPSE IN AFGHANISTAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-105)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, is to continue in effect beyond February 11, 2024.

The widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan—including the urgent needs of the people of Afghanistan for food security, livelihoods support, water, sanitation, health, hygiene, and shelter and settlement assistance, among other basic human needs—and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. In addition, the preservation of certain

property of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) held in the United States by United States financial institutions is of the utmost importance to addressing this national emergency and the welfare of the people of Afghanistan. Various parties, including representatives of victims of terrorism, have asserted legal claims against certain property of DAB or indicated in public court filings an intent to make such claims. This property is blocked under Executive Order 14064.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN AND IN RELATION TO BURMA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-106)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond February 10, 2024.

The situation in and in relation to Burma, and in particular the February 1, 2021 coup, in which the military overthrew the democratically elected civilian government of Burma and unjustly arrested and detained government leaders, politicians, human rights defenders, journalists, and religious leaders, thereby rejecting the will of the people of Burma as expressed in elections held in November 2020 and undermining the country's democratic transition and rule of law, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to Burma.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1568. An act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, February 9, 2024, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3072. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; Public Law 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982; (96 Stat. 927); to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3073. A letter from the Senior Policy Advisor, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Employee or Independent Contractor Classification Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (RIN: 1235-AA43) received February 7, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-3074. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards: Child Restraint Systems [Docket No.: NHTSA-2023-0040] (RIN: 2127-AL34) received February 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3075. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Bus Rollover Structural Integrity [Docket No.: NHTSA-2023-0043] (RIN: 2127-AM58) received February 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3076. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard; Final Listing of 2021 Light Duty Truck Lines Subject to the Requirements of This Standard and Exempted Vehicle Lines for Model Year 2021 [Docket No.: NHTSA-2023-0003] (RIN: 2127-AM59) received February 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3077. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's interim staff guidance — Material Compatibility for Non-Light Water Reactors [DANU-

ISG-2023-01] February 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3078. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Hong Kong that was declared in Executive Order 13936 of July 14, 2020, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3079. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's Agency Financial Report for FY 2022, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3080. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Endangered Species Status for Black-Capped Petrel [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2018-0043; FF09E21000 FXES111090FEDR 245] (RIN: 1018-BD13) received February 2, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3081. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Endangered Species Status for Lascios Lupine and Designation of Critical Habitat [Docket No.: FWS-R8-ES-2022-0083; FF09E21000 FXES111090FEDR 234] (RIN: 1018-BF84) received February 2, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3082. A letter from the Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Acting Secretary's response to the Office of the Ombudsman's 2022 Annual report, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7385s-15(e)(2); Public Law 106-398, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 108-375, Sec. 3161); (118 Stat. 2185); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3083. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the annual report for fiscal year 2023 on compliance within the time limitations established for deciding habeas corpus death penalty petitions under Title I of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2266(b)(5)(A); Added by Public Law 104-132, Sec. 107(a); (110 Stat. 1224) and 28 U.S.C. 2266(c)(5); Public Law 104-132, Sec. 107(a); (110 Stat. 1224); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3084. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that funding under Title V, subsection 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, has exceeded \$5 million for the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3598-EM in the State of Maine, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193(b)(3); Public Law 93-288, Sec. 503(b)(3) (as amended by Public Law 100-707, Sec. 107(a)); (102 Stat. 4707); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3085. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that funding under Title V, subsection 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-

sistance Act, as amended, has exceeded \$5 million for the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3602-EM in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193(b)(3); Public Law 93-288, Sec. 503(b)(3) (as amended by Public Law 100-707, Sec. 107(a)); (102 Stat. 4707); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3086. A letter from the ASA, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Emergency Escape Breathing Apparatus Standards [Docket No.: FRA-2009-0044, Notice No.: 2] (RIN: 2130-AC14) received January 31, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3087. A letter from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — 85/15 Rule Calculations, Waiver Criteria, and Reports [RIN: 2900-AR56] received January 22, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6009. A bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to withdraw the proposed rule relating to fluid mineral leases and leasing process, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-376). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 7265. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to establish or expand programs to implement evidence-aligned practices in health care settings for the purpose of reducing the suicide rates of covered individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 7266. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to support schools of nursing in increasing the number of nursing students and faculty and in program enhancement and infrastructure modernization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 7267. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a temporary higher Federal medical assistance percentage for Federal expenditures under the Medicaid program that are associated with the cost of compliance with certain Federal regulations with respect to services furnished in certain intermediate care facilities or home

and community-based services furnished to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington (for herself, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. COLE, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 7268. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research, training, and investigation related to Down syndrome, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 7269. A bill to prohibit certain discrimination against athletes on the basis of sex by intercollegiate athletic associations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. MCCORMICK):

H.R. 7270. A bill to prohibit fetal remains in publicly owned water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 7271. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BROWN (for herself, Ms. BALINT, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. AMO, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 7272. A bill to require reports on the progress and implementation of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURLISON (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. OGLES, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. ROY, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. EDWARDS):

H.R. 7273. A bill to rescind certain unobligated balances relating to charging and fueling grants and national electric vehicle grants; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CAREY (for himself and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 7274. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for outreach and education to Medicare beneficiaries to simplify access to information for family caregivers through 1-800-MEDICARE, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MAST, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 7275. A bill to establish a national mercury monitoring program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 7276. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications services; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 7277. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the time of imprisonment for an additional offense involving actual or perceived race, color, religion, or national origin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H.R. 7278. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify homeless youth and veterans who are full-time students for purposes of the low-income housing tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 7279. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the administrative burden on physicians and physical and occupational therapists, with respect to plan of care certification and recertification requirements; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. BARR, Mr. OGLES, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ROSE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mrs. WAGNER, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 7280. A bill to require the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to testify before the Congress annually, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 7281. A bill to assist entrepreneurs and support development of the creative economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 7282. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with an option to provide medical assistance to individuals between the ages of 22 and 64 for inpatient services to treat substance use disorders at certain facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 7283. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate and

report on the inpatient and outpatient treatment capacity, availability, and needs of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 7284. A bill to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from using assessments generated by the Integrated Risk Information System as a tier 1 data source in rulemakings and other regulatory actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BROWN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 7285. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to increase the Federal cost share for the supplemental nutrition assistance program administration to improve staffing and retention; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 7286. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to require transportation planners to consider projects and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. D'ESPOSITO):

H.R. 7287. A bill to require a report on the Taliban relationships with China and Russia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. PAL-LONE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. AMO):

H.R. 7288. A bill to repeal Freedom Support Act section 907 waiver authority with respect to assistance to Azerbaijan; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. BUSH, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 7289. A bill to establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MILLS (for himself, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 7290. A bill to prohibit corruption in the office of any State or local chief prosecutor; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. NICKEL):

H.R. 7291. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to direct the Secretary of Labor to award grants to train workers for broadband careers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 7292. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to lower barriers to increase patient access to health care; to the

Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEAL:

H.R. 7293. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide rules for automatic contribution retirement plans and arrangements; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Ms. MALOY, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. CURTIS):

H.R. 7294. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out emergency watershed protection measures on National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. PEREZ (for herself and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H.R. 7295. A bill to authorize the conveyance of property in North Bonneville, Washington, to the Port of Skamania, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 7296. A bill to establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROSE (for himself, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. POSEY, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. OGLES, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 7297. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself and Mr. JAMES):

H.R. 7298. A bill to provide for a pilot program to accord lawful permanent residence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 7299. A bill to authorize to be appropriated to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Affairs, \$1,500,000,000 to carry out the HOME Investment Partnership Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SHERRILL (for herself and Ms. DE LA CRUZ):

H.R. 7300. A bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend funding for the family-to-family health information centers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 7301. A bill to amend the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 to clarify the meaning of psychiatric rehabilitation services under demonstration programs to improve community mental health services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 7302. A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to require public housing agencies to disclose contracts entered into, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Mr. CARL):

H.R. 7303. A bill to abolish the Board on Geographic Names and repeal the provisions of the Act of July 25, 1947 establishing such Board; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BACON, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 7304. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to establish that benefits paid to a parent caring for the child of an individual who died while performing active duty as a member of the Armed Services are not subject to deductions under the retirement earnings test; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BACON, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi):

H.R. 7305. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report and briefing on anomalous health incidents affecting members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. ESTES, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. HUIZENGA):

H.J. Res. 113. A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. BOST, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. COLLINS, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. EZELL, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. BICE, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. POSEY, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. OGLES, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. MALOY, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. PERRY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. FOXX, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HILL, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. DUARTE, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CARL, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. MAST, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. MANN, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington):

H.J. Res. 114. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitting by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. BERA, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CASE, Ms. CHU, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs.

DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. ESHOO):

H. Res. 1002. A resolution recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year in 2024; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. CORREA (for himself, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CASE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. PORTER, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. CHU, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 1003. A resolution recognizing the accomplishments and the contributions of Vietnamese Americans; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H. Res. 1004. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 4 through February 10, 2024, as "National Burn Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 7265.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
To authorize the of Health and Human Services to award grants to establish or expand programs to implement evidence-aligned practices in health care settings for the purpose of reducing the suicide rates of covered individuals, and for other purposes.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 7266.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend the Public Health Service Act to to authorize grants to support schools of

nursing in increasing the number of nursing students and faculty in program enhancement and infrastructure modernization, and for other purposes.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 7267.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is: health

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 7268.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reauthorizes the "INvestigation of Co-occurring conditions across the Lifespan to Understand Down syndrome (INCLUDE) Program for Down syndrome research at the National Institute of Health.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 7270.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is:

Pro-life

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 7271.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject for this bill is making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

By Ms. BROWN:

H.R. 7272.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of Rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the U.S. Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution in Article I Section VIII.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require additional reporting requirements of the Department of Justice with regards to the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

By Mr. BURLISON:

H.R. 7273.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill relates to two grant programs found in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA.)

By Mr. CAREY:

H.R. 7274.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for outreach and education to Medicare beneficiaries to simplify access to information for family caregivers through 1-800-MEDICARE, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 7275.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is: Environment

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 7276.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The single subject of this legislation is:

Repeal of outdated tax.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO:

H.R. 7277.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To increase the time of imprisonment for an additional offense involving actual or perceived race, color, religion, or national origin.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 7278.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is: tax

By Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina:

H.R. 7279.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the administrative burden on physicians and physical therapists with respect to plan of care certification and recertification requirements.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 7280.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to testify before the Congress annually.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 7281.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would boost the creative economy and support the development of jobs and arts businesses across the country.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 7282

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is: health

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 7283.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is: health

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 7284.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reform.

By Mrs. HAYES:

H.R. 7285.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To increase federal matching for SNAP administrative staff.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 7286.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the national highway system

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 7287.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Require a report on the Taliban relationships with China and Russia.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 7288.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To repeal Freedom Support Act section 907 waiver authority with respect to assistance to Azerbaijan.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 7289.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MILLS:

H.R. 7290.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit corruption in the office of any State or local chief prosecutor.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 7291.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Broadband

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 7292.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Mr. NEAL:

H.R. 7293.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Retirement

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 7294.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Establish an Emergency Forest Watershed Program.

By Ms. PEREZ:

H.R. 7295.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Port conveyance

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 7296.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security.

By Mr. ROSE:

H.R. 7297.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
mortgage leads

By Mr. RYAN:

H.R. 7298.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

The single subject of this legislation is:
Immigration

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 7299.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Housing

By Ms. SHERRILL:

H.R. 7300.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend the finding for the family-to-family health information centers.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 7301.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Healthcare

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 7302.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Public housing contract disclosures

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 7303.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To abolish the Board on Geographic Names and repeal the provisions of the Act of July 25, 1947 establishing such Board.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 7304.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:
Military surviving-spouse benefits

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 7305.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report and briefing on anomalous health incidents affecting members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.J. Res. 113.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill proposes a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.J. Res. 114.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The subject of this legislation is the disapproval of an Executive Branch rule pursuant to the Congressional Review Act.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 148: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 169: Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 333: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 345: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 451: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 619: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 620: Ms. STEVENS and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 807: Mr. SARBANES, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 834: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1247: Mr. ARMSTRONG.

H.R. 1323: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 1425: Mr. BANKS.

H.R. 1477: Mr. NADLER and Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1486: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 1491: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1520: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1719: Mrs. PELTOLA and Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 2400: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 2573: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2621: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2685: Mr. CISCOMANI.

H.R. 2732: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 2803: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 2864: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 2870: Mr. GALLEGGO and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 3018: Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. MANNING, Ms. CHU, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 3019: Mr. LOUDERMILK.

H.R. 3048: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 3244: Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 3347: Mr. JAMES and Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 3404: Mr. GALLAGHER.

H.R. 3425: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 3433: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 3481: Ms. SANCHEZ.

H.R. 3497: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 3624: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 3656: Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 3785: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 3933: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. ZINKE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 4002: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H.R. 4178: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 4231: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4232: Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4233: Ms. BALINT, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4343: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 4384: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 4518: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. LALOTA.

H.R. 4571: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 4769: Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 4897: Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PORTER, and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 4958: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 5041: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 5075: Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 5084: Mr. CLOUD.

H.R. 5134: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 5182: Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 5256: Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 5518: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5883: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 5908: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 6033: Mr. TRONE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. LAWLER, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 6046: Mrs. SPARTZ and Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 6049: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 6053: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 6095: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.

H.R. 6271: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 6279: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 6516: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 6522: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

H.R. 6720: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 6728: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 6730: Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 7015: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 7028: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. EVANS, and Mrs. TRAHAN.

H.R. 7046: Mr. FRY.

H.R. 7075: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 7084: Mr. SORESENSEN.

H.R. 7085: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Ms. STEFANK.

H.R. 7098: Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 7109: Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. CLINE, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MILLS, Mr. BOST, Mr. BANKS, Mr. STRONG, and Mr. BURLISON.

H.R. 7149: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 7156: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 7162: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 7176: Mrs. LESKO, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PALMER, and Mr. SELF.

H.R. 7183: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 7187: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 7194: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 7202: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 7239: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 7257: Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.J. Res. 11: Mrs. STEEL and Mrs. KIM of California.

H.J. Res. 111: Mr. TIMMONS and Mr. BURCHETT.

H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. BENTZ.

H. Res. 882: Mr. NEGUSE.

H. Res. 901: Mrs. KIM of California and Ms. DELAURO.

H. Res. 965: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.

H. Res. 966: Ms. WEXTON, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SORESENSEN, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. CROW.

H. Res. 983: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H. Res. 989: Ms. SANCHEZ and Mrs. RAMIREZ.



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WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

No. 22

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, restore us to Your favor. You are our rock and salvation, our shelter in life's storms. Thank You that Your anger is only for a moment, but Your favor continues throughout the days of our lives. Though weeping may endure for a night, because of Your favor, joy comes in the morning.

Lord, surround our lawmakers with the shield of Your divine favor. May no weapon formed against them prosper. Bless them when they are on the road, when they are going to bed, and when they are getting up.

Hasten the day when, because of Your favor, justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

REMOVING EXTRANEANOUS LOOP-HOLES INSURING EVERY VETERAN EMERGENCY ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 815, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 30, H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

H.R. 815

Mr. SCHUMER. First, happy birthday, Mr. President. Have a good one. I hope we all have a good one today.

All right. Today, Mr. President, Senators face a decision several months in the making: Will Senate Republicans vote to start debate—just a debate—on bipartisan legislation to strengthen America's security, stand with Ukraine, and fix our border or will they cower to Donald Trump's orders to kill this bill? Will the Senate stand up to brutish thugs like Vladimir Putin and reassure our friends abroad that America will never abandon them in their hour of need? Will Republicans take "yes" for an answer and seize the best opportunity—the best opportunity—that Congress has seen in decades to secure our border? This is the choice Republicans face today. They can either choose what is good for the country's national interest or they can choose what is good, at least in their minds, for Donald Trump.

I have always believed the Senate works best when we take the bipartisan path. Not everything is perfect in this bill, but I see it as my job to let bipartisanship take hold whenever possible, and this bill reflects that. But all week long, Senate Republicans have looked more and more like their House counterparts and transformed themselves into the chaos caucus. Republicans have said they can't pass Ukraine without border. Now they say they can't pass Ukraine with border. So, today, I am giving them a choice. They can show America where they stand and what they stand for. Which way will it be?

Today, I have laid out both options for Republicans to do the right thing. Democrats certainly want to fix the border. It is extremely important, and we have shown our willingness time and time again to take big steps to secure the border, but we will move forward today with either option.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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First, I have scheduled a vote on the supplemental that includes strong bipartisan border reforms that Republicans have demanded for months. Negotiators on both sides worked themselves to the bone putting this border package together. I was heavily involved. I saw the work—the blood, the sweat, the tears—that went into it. Why did we do it? Because that is what Republicans wanted. They said: Can't do Ukraine, can't do Israel, can't do humanitarian aid without border.

I made sure negotiators had enough time to do their work. I gave them the space to keep going, even when it seemed like a deal was out of reach, because, again, Democrats want to secure the border because it is extremely important. It is urgent. It can't wait. We must act. We are ready to move forward on this bill now.

Today, when we vote, it will be clear as day who is serious about fixing the border and who is not. I urge Republicans to take "yes" for an answer.

If Republicans block this national security package with border legislation that they demanded, later today, I will give them the opportunity to move forward with a package without border reforms. This package will otherwise be largely the same. It will have strong funding for Ukraine, funding for Israel, help for innocent civilians in Gaza, and funding to the Indo-Pacific.

The legislation on the floor today is one of the most important security packages the Senate has considered in a very long time. So the onus is on Senate Republicans to finally take "yes" for an answer.

It would be an embarrassment for our country—an absolute nightmare for the Republican Party—if they reject national security funding twice in one day. Today is the day for Republicans to do the right thing when it comes to our national security.

Now, it must be—

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, would my friend from New York yield—

Mr. SCHUMER. No, I will not.

Mr. WICKER.—just for a question about—

Mr. SCHUMER. Not now. I am in the middle of my speech.

Now, Mr. President, it must be said that the 180-turn Republicans have done on border is one of the most stunning things I have seen Congress in a long, long time do. The damage Republicans have done this week to their credibility cannot be understated.

After all, how many times have we heard our Republicans colleagues give speeches here on the floor about the emergency at the border? How many times have we heard Republicans say, year after year, that Congress must act, that legislation is the only long-term solution? They have said that: Legislation is the way we have to go.

How many times have we seen Republicans take field trips down to the border, like Eagle Pass or Laredo, and take pictures with the fence towering behind them, while bemoaning that the

problem at the border is only getting worse?

Apparently, that was all for show. Apparently, Republicans aren't actually serious about fixing the border, because you cannot—you cannot—claim to be serious about fixing the border while voting against the kind of border package we have before us today. You cannot claim to truly care about fixing asylum if you are going to vote against the biggest updates to asylum law in decades.

You cannot claim to care about our Border Patrol agents while depriving them of the very tools and funding they are asking for. Remember, the union of Border Patrol agents—a very conservative, almost always pro-Republican group—wants us to pass this bill.

Why are we doing all of this? Why are they going to kill, in one fell swoop, this agreement that has taken months to piece together?

The answer—why are the Republicans doing all of this? Why have they backed off on border when they know it is the right thing to do? Two words: Donald Trump.

Donald Trump doesn't like that the Senate finally reached a real bipartisan border deal. So he has demanded Republicans kill it. Let me say that again because it is as plain as could be. Donald Trump doesn't like that the Senate finally reached a bipartisan border deal. So he has demanded Republicans kill it. He thinks it is far better to keep the border in chaos so he can exploit it for personal political great gains.

Senate Republicans—vertebrae nowhere to be found—are ready to blunder away our best chance of fixing the border in order to elevate what they see as the interests of Donald Trump above the interests of the country.

I expected this kind of cynical nonsense from the far-right House MAGA Republicans, but it is shameful and embarrassing to see MAGA radicalism take hold here in the Senate.

No matter how today shapes out, I hope Republicans end up doing the right thing when it comes to national security, before the day is done, and agree to move forward on those things they do support, because if there is one other person besides Donald Trump who is rooting for chaos in the Senate, it is Vladimir Putin.

If we fail in this moment, if we abandon our friends in Ukraine to Vladimir Putin, history will cast a shameful and permanent shadow on Senators who block funding. It is a matter of the highest national urgency that we get this right.

Remember what Putin said 2 months ago about American aid to Ukraine:

[The free stuff is going to run out some day, and it seems it already has.

That is Vladimir Putin taunting the Senate, taunting America. We have a chance today to make him regret those words.

Republicans of decades past would have never hesitated to support fund-

ing for nations like Ukraine. In previous generations, both parties would have bent Heaven and Earth to stand up to Russian dictators. I can hear Ronald Reagan giving a speech passionately asking the Senate to vote for aid to Ukraine. We spent half a century safeguarding the free world against the malicious spread of communism, against tyranny, against those who have tried to undermine our values.

Those very same issues—of Western democracy, of the sovereignty of free nations, of the safety of our troops and our citizens—are on the line yet again in the 21st century. They are the very things that stitch this supplemental together. It is why we are here with this bill before us in the first place.

There is only one right answer for the Senate today to address the great challenges we face. There is only one path forward to fulfill our obligations to the American people. There is only one way Senators—Democrats and Republicans, both sides of the aisle—should vote today, and that is for us to move forward on the package of national security.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I wonder if the majority leader would yield for a question on schedule?

Mr. SCHUMER. No questions.

Mr. WICKER. Well, may I say something on just this quick point, Mr. President? My question to the Democratic leader was about the way he intends to proceed.

Obviously, he has counted the votes, as we have on this side, and the package with the border provision will not pass. Then he intends to move to a package that does not contain the border provision.

My question to the distinguished leader would have been: Does he intend to negotiate an amendment process where Members from both sides of the aisle would be able to propose changes in the legislation? And how will that affect when we go forward and when we are able to deal with these important issues that he has advocated for so vigorously? Those would have been my questions, and I think the American people and the Senate deserve an answer on how we are going to proceed, and will there be an open process of amendments?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, after listening to the majority leader's comments, I think it is worth taking 5 minutes to recall how we got here.

You know, it is ironic to me that people give speeches here on the floor of the Senate about their support for Israel. And there is no doubt Israel is involved in an existential fight with Iran and Iranian proxies like Hamas and Hezbollah, the Houthis rebels, and the Shia militias in Syria and Iraq.

But the House passed an Israel aid package on November 2. Israel was attacked October 7. The House acted on

November 2, and the majority leader, who is the only one who can schedule a vote on anything here on the Senate floor, has done nothing to help our best ally and friend in the Middle East, the State of Israel—nothing.

He has insisted that we package together aid to Ukraine, aid to the Indo-Pacific. And there have been endless discussions about a border bill, which I will come to in a moment. But this problem that we are running into is one of his own creation.

He could decide to take up these bills individually, knowing that the House has already passed an Israel aid bill, and then have the Senate take it up and pass that bill. Then we can turn to the other issues that are vitally important to our national security and deserve fulsome debate and an open amendment process.

That is the question my friend from Mississippi was trying to ask the majority leader, but he decided to leave the floor without responding to that, giving me some doubt as to the sincerity of his commitment to have an open amendment process and actually restore the Senate to its previously held reputation as the world's greatest deliberative body. Nobody can call us that now with a straight face.

I understand that the majority leader is trying the best he can to help the Republican Party. He gives advice freely as to what Republicans should do. But the fact of the matter is, we have no confidence—zero confidence—that the Biden administration will enforce the law when it comes to the border. That has been the case for the last 3 years, resulting in historically high numbers—300,000 people a month—showing up at the border, only to be ushered into the interior by Biden open-border policies that either people claim asylum and are released into the interior, perhaps never to be heard from again, or they are released on parole.

Catch-and-release is the policy of the Biden administration and congressional Democrats. That has proven to be a powerful magnet for illegal immigration—people literally coming from all around the world because they know they can make it into the country because President Biden and Senate Democrats have laid out the welcome mat.

So you will have to forgive me when I note the fake outrage, the phony messaging that we hear from Democrats about this border negotiation. Yes, it is true that we hoped to come up with something credible. On our side of the aisle, Senator LANKFORD from Oklahoma has done a heroic and a thankless job of trying to come up with a negotiated package. But the fact of the matter is, the package includes catch-and-release still, providing additional or continued incentives for people to come to the country illegally, knowing they will be released into the interior; and it does nothing to stop the Biden administration from abusing some-

thing called parole, which means that, in order to avoid bad press, in order to avoid embarrassing TV pictures of an overwhelmed border, they simply just release people into the interior of the country for 2 years and give them a work permit.

Are you kidding me? They now claim to be the defenders of the border and for border security? What a joke. What a joke. And it is a bad joke.

We know, as a result, the Biden border policy, supported day in and day out by our Democratic colleagues for the entire time that President Biden has been in office, has resulted in roughly 7 million migrants being released into the interior of the United States, and 1.7 million “got-aways”—what the Border Patrol calls them, people evading law enforcement, for good reason, I suspect. Either they are transporting illegal drugs into the interior of the United States or, maybe, just maybe, out of that 1.7 million, there are a few people who are on the Terrorist Watchlist.

We know the Border Patrol has detained roughly 170—I think, at last count—people on the Terrorist Watchlist. That is the people they know about. But they can't tell us how many more people on the Terrorist Watchlist are among those “got-aways,” endangering the safety and security of the United States.

It took 19 people to kill 3,000 Americans on 9/11. What about 1.7 million “got-aways”? We don't know whether these are serial criminals. We don't know whether they are transporting drugs. We don't know whether they are terrorists. We don't know anything about them, and, frankly, President Biden doesn't care—and neither do our Senate colleagues who have done zero—nothing, nada—to deal with this problem. So you will have to forgive me if I find their fake outrage unconvincing.

And then there are the 108,000 Americans who died of drug overdoses last year. That is also part of the Biden open border policies. I have been wearing since April of last year a rubber bracelet given to me by a father of a young woman who lost her life because she took a pill that she thought was relatively innocuous but was laced with fentanyl. Her name was Sienna. Her father asked me to wear this rubber bracelet that says: “One pill can kill.”

Well, 71,000 Americans died last year as a result of fentanyl poisoning, including young women like Sienna, who took something they thought was relatively innocuous, which was a counterfeit pill laced with fentanyl—and not waking up the next morning.

And then perhaps the greatest untold story—we tried to tell the story, and the New York Times has written about this—is the hundreds of thousands of unaccompanied children who have been placed with sponsors in the interior of the United States who have come across the border. They have been attracted like a magnet to our border

and under Biden policy have been released to sponsors, many of whom aren't even immediate relatives.

And the Biden administration has simply lost track of them. They can't tell you whether the 300,000 children are going to school, whether they are getting the healthcare they need, whether they are being trafficked for sex, whether they are being forced into involuntary labor. The New York Times has written at least two times that I recall about forced labor conditions for these migrant children—forced into illegal, dangerous labor.

And the New York Times tried to call some of these sponsors to see if they knew about what these children were doing, these children who were turned over to the care of these sponsors by the Biden administration under their current policies. In 85,000 cases—85,000 cases—there was no answer.

So the truth is, under the Biden border policies, under the policies supported by all of our Democratic colleagues—now who are demonstrating fake outrage about the failure of the current border bill—they simply don't care. They don't care about these children. They don't care about the families grieving lost loved ones as a result of the illegal drugs that stream across the border, carried by the very criminal organizations that smuggle people from around the world who show up at our border and are released into the interior of the United States.

What greater incentive can you think of for attracting illegal immigration than the open border policies which, tragically, result in the death of innocent Americans, including innocent children, losing 300,000 children placed with sponsors? The Biden administration doesn't care.

So let me just say that when the majority leader takes off his hat as the majority leader of this great institution and puts on his hat as a Democratic partisan making political attacks against the very people he is hoping will support the legislation that he is advocating for—aid to Ukraine—this is not a good day for this institution. And it strikes me as a bizarre tactic when you know who the hundred people are who are going to be voting on the legislation that he is going to put on the floor.

And the fact that the majority leader walks away from a legitimate question by our colleague the Senator from Mississippi who asked whether there will be an opportunity for debate and votes on amendments—he won't even answer the question. This is the same majority leader who put this bill on the floor that we will be voting on at 1 o'clock and said, “OK, we released the text,” on Sunday night and that in 72 hours Senators are going to have to vote on it.

These are detailed, complex negotiations that have been taking place for months now, and the majority leader won't even give the Senate and Senators time to digest it and understand

it. I think that tells you all you need to know about his motives. This is all about partisan political attacks and posturing leading up to the November 2024 election.

President Biden is guilty of some of the same posturing. He said—this is rich—after Secretary Mayorkas, the Secretary of Homeland Security, has said time and time again under oath, “The border is secure”—well, we knew that was a lie because our eyes did not deceive us. We could see what was happening at the border. We could listen to Mayor Adams in New York City, the mayor of Chicago, Governors around the country, saying: We are being inundated by migrants coming across the border. And in the case of Mayor Adams, he said it is going to destroy New York City, even though they are a self-designated sanctuary city.

Well, all of that has fallen on deaf ears for the last 3 years, and the Senate majority leader and the President of the United States think that the American people are so dumb that they haven't seen what has been going on the last 3 years. They have resisted every single effort on our part to secure the border, to halt this tsunami of illegal immigration and illegal drugs. They have resisted all of it.

And now the majority leader would have you believe that he has had a conversion. This is Saul on the road to Damascus. But I don't believe it, and I don't believe the American people will believe it because their common sense, their very eyes and ears tell them something different, and that is that the Biden administration, Democrats in the Senate, and the Senate majority leader who came out here crying crocodile tears over the failure of the border negotiation—they know it is not true. The American people will not be deceived by this transparent political pitch suggesting that now they are the champions of border security.

The President of the United States has every tool he needs—every tool he needs—to secure the border. The laws that are in effect now are the same laws that were in effect when President Trump was in office, and the numbers were dramatically different. In fact, President Biden's numbers of people coming across the border have exceeded the number that came during the entire 8 years of the Obama administration and the entire 4 years of the Trump administration.

So, Mr. President, I know there are others here, including my friend the Republican leader, who are prepared to speak, so I will sit down. But I just couldn't help myself, sitting here listening to what the majority leader was trying to sell, which is so patently ahistorical, false, and is clearly just partisan political rhetoric trying to improve what is a very, very damaged reputation when it comes to dealing with our national security and the border.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 4 months ago, Senate Republicans asked our colleague from Oklahoma Senator LANKFORD to take on a pretty tall order: negotiate serious border security policy with an administration that had shown no interest in actually securing the border. He put in an enormous amount of work, and I am very grateful for the persistence he has shown over many nights, weekends, and a few holidays.

The product he was able to secure earned the endorsement of the National Border Patrol Council, a sign that you are pointing in the right direction. But as our colleagues recognize, the agreement does not have a path to become law. The border crisis that President Biden invited through his rhetoric and his willful neglect will continue to challenge the brave men and women of the CPB and ICE and impact communities across the country, and its effects will follow his legacy forever.

I wish I could say that a record-setting border crisis was the only challenge that the President's failures have laid before us, but our colleagues know as well as I do that that isn't the case. There have always been aggressive forces seeking to harm America and to challenge our interests. The very existence of a Western order in which sovereign nations choose their own leaders has always been an affront to repressive and aggressive regimes around the world.

But even in the face of serious threats, for large portions of modern history, the United States has dictated the terms of engagement. For decades, the world's foremost superpower has been the one doing the deterring. Not anymore. It is no longer a settled question that America will meet aggression with overwhelming force or even that we will back our allies 100 percent.

Take this headline about President Biden's response to the attack that killed three U.S. soldiers last month:

U.S. Strikes Steer Clear of Iran's Red Lines.

Here is the subhead of another one:

U.S. officials acknowledge that the militias targeted still retain the majority of their capability to carry out future attacks.

Oh, here is one more:

Pentagon says it's not planning for a long-term campaign [against Iran's proxies] in Iraq and Syria.

So, Mr. President, what can the American people—and the entire world—gather about the Biden administration's approach to the threats that we face?

First, we know that Iran is deterring America, not the other way around.

Second, we know that the Commander in Chief has not yet directed the strongest military in the world

even to exercise sufficient force against expendable proxy terrorists, let alone their Iranian sponsors.

Finally, we know that the Biden administration lacks the resolve to defeat those who spill American blood.

The Pentagon conceded this week they were not aware that even a single IRGC officer had been eliminated by their response. Yet administration officials say this is what sending a message of deterrence looks like.

Let's be honest here. Do our allies see in this behavior an America that is willing to impose decisive costs on our adversaries? Do our adversaries, in turn, see any reason to start changing their calculus?

In the Middle East, we already know the answer. Since the President's telegraphed “response” to the deadly Tower 22 attack, Iran-backed terrorists have already launched more attacks—from Iraq and Syria to the Red Sea. Iran and its proxies are undeterred.

But beyond the region, is there any reason to expect that the President's conduct of foreign policy is causing Putin or Xi to think again? Not a chance. No doubt, the Commander in Chief's halting response to Tehran's aggression emboldens Moscow. Russian forces, like Iran and its proxies, were direct beneficiaries of President Biden's hesitation and self-deterrence as they escalated their invasion of Ukraine.

Beijing—after it watched us abandon allies in Afghanistan and second-guess Israel's response to terrorism—has a reason to doubt that the United States is well-positioned to rally allies and partners to resist aggression in the Indo-Pacific. If America fails to stand with our partners on the frontlines of Europe and the Middle East, we will shred our credibility with friends in the Indo-Pacific.

So today's strategic competition is more perilous. Support for our allies is more tenuous. And the security of U.S. personnel and interests is more questionable than it was 3 years ago.

These are the circumstances in which the Senate must consider some weighty responsibilities of our own: to invest in the hard power that the President instinctively shies away from exercising, to commit to allies that fear being abandoned, and to address the requirements of long-term competition that becomes more difficult the longer America neglects its leading role.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, after I complete my remarks, the following is going to be the schedule of speakers on the floor before the rollcall vote. It is a bipartisan agreement. I ask unanimous consent that following my remarks, the following Senators be permitted to speak prior to the scheduled vote: Senator LANKFORD of Oklahoma for up to 30 minutes; Senator MURRAY

of Washington, up to 10 minutes; Senator SINEMA of Arizona, up to 15 minutes; and Senator SCHUMER for up to 5 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I listened to the statements that were made this afternoon on the floor of the Senate, and there were some omissions of fact which need to be reminded to the people who are following.

It was 4 months ago when we faced a deadline to come up with assistance for Ukraine. You know what has been going on there for 2 years: a war fought by the most courageous people I know—the Ukrainians—against the invasion of Vladimir Putin.

The United States, NATO allies, and many others have been standing behind Ukrainians, and we knew that they needed additional resources to continue the battle this year.

Four months ago, the President put together a supplemental appropriations bill for that purpose. It also addressed the situation in the Middle East, the Far East, and the looming humanitarian crises around the world, including Gaza, that needed to be addressed.

We wanted to move on this on a timely basis, but there was an objection. The objection came from the other side of the aisle, Republican Senators who said: You need to include border security. What is happening on our southern border cannot be ignored.

We discussed it for a period of time and then agreed with them. We were going to work together on a bipartisan basis, Republicans and Democrats, to change what was happening on America's southern border to make us safe and to bring order to the situation.

Several of our colleagues were chosen to engage in the negotiations for this issue.

This is a tough issue. Any issue involving immigration is extremely difficult. That is why it has been over 30 years since Congress has passed immigration reform, when we know that the body of laws that governs our immigration and our border needed attention long ago.

Three Senators, very diverse Senators, were chosen to negotiate an agreement if they could. They were led by Senator LANKFORD, JAMES LANKFORD, Republican of Oklahoma, who was chosen by the Republican Senate caucus to be their negotiator. Several of my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle assured me that he had worked hard at it, understood the issue, and was prepared to accept this challenge and responsibility. So Senator LANKFORD led in that regard. Two other Senators—Senator SINEMA of Arizona, who is characterized as an Independent Senator at this point in her career, and Senator CHRIS MURPHY of Connecticut were the second and third Senators who sat down and started negotiating together.

They put together a package. It took them 4 months. We had to postpone the negotiations for Christmas and for other breaks that were normal in the Senate calendar. But they were given wide berth to come up with an agreement, a bipartisan agreement, and it was announced last Sunday.

Senator SCHUMER, the Democratic leader, released it on Sunday and said: I will heed the advice of Senators from both sides of the aisle that Members should have 72 hours to review this document before they have to vote on it.

The vote we are talking about this afternoon is that vote, more than 72 hours after this proposed bill was released.

What did this bill do that would gain the support of the Democratic and Republican Senators who were negotiating? What it did was to address many issues—primarily border issues—that related to security.

The current situation on our border is unsustainable. We are being overwhelmed by the number of people who are showing up in record numbers. That reflects several things—a refugee crisis around the world.

Those of you who watched “60 Minutes” this week noticed that there were people from China who are now coming to our southern border to come into the United States. No one anticipated that when we talked about the asylum laws several years ago, but that is a fact of life. People are coming from all around the world to come to our southern border, and they are overwhelming the resources of that border.

This bill—this agreed-to bill, this bipartisan bill—that is being considered here this afternoon was an effort by both sides to limit the number of people coming across the border at any given time. It gave new authority to the President of the United States to cap and limit the number of people crossing the border at a given time.

When those on the other side say we don't need this bill, that is legislative authority the President currently doesn't have, and it was included. There were billions of dollars of investment in technology to stop the flow of not only those who are undocumented and illegal but also the flow of fentanyl into the United States, just to name two major features of this bill. It had many provisions hammered out over months of negotiations.

Those of us who came back this week said we were finally going to do something on the border, and the good news is, it is bipartisan. Senator LANKFORD has signed off on it, and the other two Senators, representing the Democratic side of the aisle, signed off on it as well. We were prepared to see this pass and hope for the best in the House of Representatives.

Then the bottom dropped out. One thing happened that we didn't anticipate. One person in America came out against the proposal. One person said to the Republican Senators: Sorry, no

matter what you agreed to, it is unacceptable. Blame it on me, he said, but we are not going to have a bipartisan agreement on the border. This is unacceptable.

That one person is Donald Trump. He made that announcement at that point. Many of the Republicans who had indicated interest in this measure walked away from it, and today, I am afraid we are going to see that in the vote. It is really sad when you consider what is at stake, the lives that are at stake all across the United States. People who are trying to come to this country with good intentions and good purposes and would make us a better nation are being caught up in this political battle.

So when Senator SCHUMER comes to the floor and expresses his disappointment, he speaks for the entire Senate Democratic caucus. We are disappointed that we came up with a bipartisan bill with Senator LANKFORD, who has been a stalwart in this whole experience. He has shown principle and values and negotiated in good faith. He produced a bipartisan bill, and we are prepared to vote for it this afternoon.

The sad reality is that the assistance to Ukraine, which was one of the original reasons for this conversation, is still in doubt. I hope at the end of the day that the Democrats can lead the way, with the Republicans, and provide the survival assistance absolutely necessary for the people in Ukraine. They are watching carefully.

At the end of next week, a group of us will be going to the Munich Security Conference in Germany. It is held each year. It is a bipartisan delegation. We go to speak for the United States. What we have to say to our European allies will depend on the votes that will follow today, the first and the second vote. Will we stand by Ukraine or will we walk away from it and let Vladimir Putin have his dream of an expansion of the former Soviet system? I hope not.

The people in Ukraine deserve better. We need to stand together with them. There is much to be said as to what this means to the rest of the world, but we have been reminded by our NATO allies, who have been loyal to a fault so far—and I hope they continue to be—that we can't walk away from that situation without inviting disastrous consequences around the world.

I am afraid that if we walk away from Ukraine, they will struggle to survive. And I hope they do, but it will be a real struggle. In the meantime, it heartens Vladimir Putin and our adversaries around the world to see us waiver when it comes to staying with the Ukrainian people.

I hope that vote this afternoon—that both votes are in a positive way, that we can take that message to the rest of the world that we are still there.

I also want to say that it is hard to imagine that the party of Ronald Reagan and John McCain—the party that claimed to take a strong stand

against communism—just played right into the hands of former KGB apparatchik Vladimir Putin's hand. That is right—the same Putin who called the collapse of Soviet tyranny “the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century.”

Putin and his Iranian and North Korean enablers are trying to roll back Western democracy and restore Soviet glory, and the front of the line is Ukraine, where the United States and European allies have helped these heroic Ukrainians to repel the Russian invasion.

What is Putin's strategy after suffering staggering losses in equipment and personnel? To bet that the United States will allow partisanship to interfere with its support of Ukraine and hope that former President Trump returns to the White House. That is Putin's dream.

Just as we learned when it came to the agreement—the bipartisan agreement—on border security, Donald Trump has made it clear that he opposes this continuing assistance to Ukraine.

You may recall that in 2018, Trump stood next to Putin in Helsinki and said he believed Putin's denials about interfering in our election, while Putin smirked at the podium.

By failing to pass national security funding, we would be playing into Putin's hands.

Many congressional Republicans have spoken loudly about defending Ukraine and the NATO alliance. They have traveled to NATO summits and even Munich security conferences to support this mission. They have also visited Ukraine, followed by press conferences with belligerent claims that President Biden just wasn't doing enough. But today, the fate of Ukraine hangs in the balance on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

It seems too many of my colleagues have collectively cowered to Donald Trump, who wants to tank the supplemental funding agreement for his own cynical reasons. Is that who congressional Republicans are going to entrust with stopping Russian aggression? Make no mistake, it is not only Putin watching and savoring this failure to act; it is Iran, China, North Korea, and others.

I think of the late John McCain and how he would look at the situation on the Republican side of the aisle today. He was a fierce critic throughout his life of Russian tyranny, especially Putin's tyranny. He was the target of Putin's early sanctions, as many of us were as well. John McCain took that as a badge of pride, and I do too.

It is time we show the same courage here in Congress and make sure that we pass emergency national security funding. Last I checked, protecting democracy and safeguarding American security were bipartisan causes, and they should be still.

I would like to make one last point. It is hard for me to see us visit this

issue of immigration and not mention an issue that has been near and dear to me for more than two decades.

Today, I want to tell you the story of a Dreamer, Dr. Jacqueline Solis. Hers is the 139th Dreamer story I have told on the floor of the Senate. Jacqueline was born in Peru and immigrated to this country when she was 10. She wanted to become a doctor. She didn't think it was possible because she was undocumented.

Twelve years ago, in response to a bipartisan request from myself and the late Senator Richard Lugar, President Obama established DACA Program. It has protected more than 800,000 young people like Jacqueline. Thanks to DACA, she was able to attend medical school. I am proud to say that last year, she graduated from Loyola University Chicago's Stritch School of Medicine, the first medical school to accept DACA applicants. She is now completing her pediatrics residency at Emory University Hospital. DACA allowed her to come out of the shadows and give back to the country she grew up in, the country she loves: the United States of America. She hopes to be an agent of change in her community where she mentors medical students and first-generation, low-income students. One of her goals is to open a mobile clinic where she could drive to different communities and help patients.

Ask yourself: Would America be better off if Dr. Jacqueline Solis and Dreamers like her were unable to work in the United States? Still, 20 years later, we are trying our best to make sure these young people have a fighting chance to be part of America's future.

Last September, a Federal judge in Texas declared the DACA program illegal, though the decision left in place protections for current DACA recipients while the appeal is pending. These young people live in fear that the next court decision will upend their lives. That would be a disaster.

When we get on the subject of immigration, the border is critical. It is important. I want to be part of that conversation. Please, don't forget the Dreamers, and don't forget so many people who have proven over and over again that they are our future and our strength, if given that chance.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to be able to use a prop during this speech.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LANKFORD. In about an hour, this body will gather. There will be 100 Senators here to make a decision about what we are going to do to take a step on border security. It is an issue that has bedeviled, quite frankly, this body for decades. It has been three decades since we passed anything into law to be able to change border security.

In the meantime, administration after administration has pieced to-

gether broken pieces of law in the disjoining pieces and tried to make regulatory actions to see what they can do to be able to change the direction of the country.

We have seen just over the last 10 or 15 years what really happened to that. This is just an encounter number from CBP; and we can look back to 2009, and we can see the numbers stayed about half a million or so for multiple years.

This is through the Obama administration. They struggled because the numbers were lower than this even before. They struggled with half a million numbers. We see during the Trump administration how the numbers bump up and jump up here almost to a million in a single year, twice as many as it was during the Obama time period. Then we see COVID time period, it dives back down. Then right there is the transition in President Biden's time, and the numbers have skyrocketed. They doubled from the Biden administration to this year in the Trump administration, but then they tripled even from the highest year of the Trump administration during the Biden administration.

It wasn't a single bump year like it was under the Trump administration. It has been year after year after year. By the way, this little one is this fiscal year. That is just since October—which by the way, you will notice in the last 4 months is higher than any year under the Obama administration and almost as high as the peak year under the Trump administration, and that is 4 months so far this year.

Americans feel it. We feel it in our cities. We feel it in our schools and our communities. We see the television, and we see all of the chaos on our southern border. Cities around the country have said: Do something. Make this stop.

Americans, whether they are Republican, Democrat, or Independent, are all unanimous on this issue: This is a problem that needs to be solved; do what you can.

Today, we get to decide if we are going to do that or not; if we are going to do nothing or do something. The bill that has been put together has been a bipartisan effort. Welcome to the U.S. Senate. That is what we have to do. While I have people from around the country and back home that say: Do a Republican-only bill; just get all of our priorities and none of theirs. I smile at them and say: Welcome to governance. You can do a partisan bill in the House, but in the Senate, we have to look at each other across the aisle and then figure out a way to be able to solve this. Sometimes it is in committees; sometimes it is a gathering; sometimes it was like this time: Get Members together—Republican, Independent, Democratic—to be able to sit down and hash out the issues; to say this is a problem, we all agree. We are not going to agree on the solutions, necessarily, but we all agree this is a problem. But we have to figure out what the solutions might be.

That has been the process for the last 4 months—4 months—to sit down and hash through the very difficult, very technical issues of border security in our Nation with one goal: Let's make progress.

We understood from the beginning we are not going to solve everything. We are not. We knew from the beginning it is not going to be perfect. But we also knew the status quo is untenable. We have to do something to be able to make the status quo better. So that is what we worked towards—to be able to change where we are now.

The product we put out this past weekend allowed everybody to see it. Quite frankly, I had some of my colleagues that said: I will need weeks to evaluate it because it is so technical. And it is. But some, literally within minutes, said: No, I don't agree.

Fine. But after time to be able to review it, the National Border Patrol Council—the group that is actually on the ground trying to manage the chaos—they read through the bill and evaluated it. And the National Border Patrol Council gave this statement:

[The Border Patrol Act of 2024] will give U.S. Border Patrol agents authorities codified, in law, that we have not had in the past.

While not perfect—

And I will agree with them on that.

—the Border Patrol Act of 2024 is a step in the right direction and is far better than the current status quo. This is why the National Border Patrol Council endorses this bill and hopes for its quick passage.

I understand this: In this building and in the 202 area code that is Washington, DC, border security is a political issue. But if we leave the 202 area code, everywhere else in the country, this is not a political issue; it is a national security issue. And when you actually go to the Border Patrol Council, those that see the chaos day-to-day, they are saying: Send us some help; send us anything.

Quite frankly, Americans are frustrated and angry because our borders are open. They have seen the record numbers in the last 4 months. They know full well what is happening. The "60 Minutes" story from this last weekend was about Chinese nationals using TikTok to be able to find the holes in the fence and to be able to navigate it; how to be able to connect with Mexican cartel members to be able to navigate in through Mexico to be able to get through. Why is that such a big story? Because we used to rarely have Chinese nationals come across our border. But yet, last year, we had 37,000 Chinese nationals come across our border—37,000.

Americans watched the story of a group of migrants in New York City ruthlessly beating up a police officer this past week. And then see they were released again. They are angry. They are frustrated. The stories that have come out in the news recently of three child sex traffickers who had attempted reentry back into the United States make Americans go: Hold on.

Just a few days ago, there was a story coming out of an al-Shabaab—terrorists on our Terror Watchlist—that had come across our border and had been released just early last year. They then picked them up while they were in Minnesota just a few weeks ago.

We have had 50 people that have been identified on the Terror Watchlist that we did apprehend in just the last 4 months. We have had tens of thousands of people in the last year that were identified by this administration as individuals who were what they call special interest aliens. By definition, they are a national security risk. There are tens of thousands that we didn't know their name, in particular, but we know that where they live is in an area of high national security risk because the high terrorism rate is coming from that area. We have no criminal history on them to be able to identify them on our Terror Watchlist, but we know there is a high chance they are a national security risk.

Those individuals were released into the country. Americans feel it. They want something different. The Americans that I talk to, the Oklahomans that I talk to don't mind legal immigration. In fact, they celebrate legal immigration. They just don't want illegal immigration.

They want an orderly process. They want to know that the rule of law still matters in America. That is what they want to know. They want to know their American way of life is protected, and that should not be too much to demand.

This very divided Nation brings to us a very divided Congress. Currently, we have a Republican two-vote majority in the House of Representatives and a Democrat one-vote majority in the U.S. Senate. It doesn't get much closer than that to being equally divided in two bodies.

But that means, if we are going to solve something, we have to sit down together and solve it. That is how it works when you make law. You can do press conferences without the other side, but you can't make law without the other side in the U.S. Senate. So we have to sit down and work things out.

In October, when Israel was ruthlessly attacked with a terrorist attack by Hamas, the President of the United States came to Congress and said: We need additional funding to help Israel, to help Ukraine, to help with the threats in Taiwan, and additional money for our southern border.

Republicans responded by saying: We are not going to help give money to the southern border—by the way, especially for some of the funding that they asked for on the southern border, like safe migration offices to be able to help facilitate greater traffic to the United States.

We said: We are not going to do that. We are not going to give additional money to the southern border unless we get a change in law and policy.

That is not a radical concept, quite frankly. The House of Representatives, last year, passed a very comprehensive bill on border security that they call H.R. 2. It was one of their priorities. Do you know why? Because the House of Representatives, at that time, said: We need a change in law. So they brought a bill to change the law for that.

We said the same thing: We need a change in law because it is significant what has occurred, and we need to address it.

The frightening thing is, since we started meeting in a bipartisan way in October, October was the highest number of illegal crossings of any October in our history. November was the highest number of illegal crossings of any November in our history. December was the highest number of illegal crossings of any December in our history and the highest single month in history of illegal crossings, including having the highest single day ever in the history of our country in illegal crossings: Over 12,000 in a single day.

That is what has happened just since we have been negotiating this bill trying to be able to get to a solution. The problem has not gotten better. It has gotten worse during that time period. We need to solve this. The worst-case scenario is the status quo. We need to solve it.

So we came up with a bill. It doesn't have everything in it I wanted. It doesn't have everything in it my Democratic colleagues wanted. But it definitely makes a difference.

What is in this bill?

Well, here is what the bill includes. Let me just walk through some of the high points of it. It includes more border wall construction, under the 18-foot, 30-foot bollard-style definition, in locations, actually, that were set by President Trump in those locations to actually build a wall.

It has 50,000 detention beds. So it ends our catch-and-release issue. So especially single adults, as they are coming across, the vast majority end up being held while they are being screened there, rather than just released into the country as they are now.

We doubled the deportation flights. We added money for DNA testing. We added money for additional State, local, and private law enforcement that we are partnering with along the border to be able to help with the enforcement process there.

We have a tremendous increase in the number of ICE agents, the number of Border Patrol agents, more asylum officers, more immigration judges.

We added detection equipment at our ports of entry to interdict fentanyl, one of the biggest threats to our Nation right now.

And we increased the sanction authority for the U.S. Government to be able to sanction those ruthless cartels and members of cartels and those that facilitate them to be able to go after the fentanyl issue in the United States.

It has a pretty radical change in asylum law in it. It strengthens significantly the standard of evidence for declaring asylum. Today, people who are crossing the border can literally cross and say: "I have fear in my country." When they say those magic words, they are released into the country—the vast majority of them—for up to 10 years, while they await their screening or hearing. That would end under this bill.

We increase significantly the standard for evidence. We add three new eligibility bars at the beginning of it so we get to a faster screening process and, for those who are not eligible, a faster deportation.

It is somewhat of a "Where's Waldo?" game on a day-to-day basis on our southern border, as we have thousands of people coming through. Some of those individuals do qualify for asylum, but most of them do not. So our goal was to be able to filter through quickly, identify those who qualify, and deport all of them who do not.

We have a faster structure to process aliens when they cross the border, in detention or nondetained, either one, so they don't end up in the 10-year backlog awaiting their decision—both for those who qualify for asylum, so they don't wait 10 years, and those that everyone knows, from the beginning, they don't qualify for asylum, they are turned around and deported immediately.

This ends the abuse of parole that is happening on our southern border today. Today, the administration will identify 1,500 people, will give them parole authority at one of our ports of entry and a work permit the first day they come.

They don't have to qualify for asylum. They don't even have to apply for asylum. It is literally an open invitation for anyone anywhere in the world to get a work permit if you will just tell us in advance you are coming. It is not lawful. It is just happening. This bill would end that.

This bill also has a short-term, 3-year authority to quickly stop the flow of people coming into our country right now.

I had a lot of my colleagues on the Republican side that said: Whatever we pass will never be implemented by the Biden administration. We have got to do something, though, right now, to be able to get things to change, because everyone knows this is occurring not because of some migration trends around the world but because right there, President Biden announced, "I am not going to build any more wall," and he dropped all the authorities that had been used not just by President Trump but by Presidents Trump and Obama. He dropped them, and we saw this skyrocket.

So everyone said: Whatever we pass, President Biden will never use. So whatever you can put in there to be able to actually make sure this occurs, please do.

So we did. We included a border emergency authority that said if we ever exceed 5,000 people—which, by the way, is every day but 7 in the last 4 months—if we ever exceed 5,000 people and we are at chaos level, the border shuts down completely. It is not optional; it is mandatory.

And when I say "shut down," it is pretty simple. What happens for the first 5,000? Let me make it clear. For the first 5,000 people who are coming across, they are detained, they are screened, and then deported. If you get above 5,000, we are in such a chaotic moment that we don't have time. So we just detain and deport them. There is no screening at all because we have run out of time. We don't have the manpower to do it. That is the shift that occurs.

It is not that the first 5,000 are released. That is ridiculous. The first 5,000 we detain, we screen, and then we deport. The second, if we get above 5,000, we just detain and deport. And when the border is closed down, it is closed down for weeks, where we are not even screening for weeks until we get caught up. It was something that we could implement right now and to be able to make a difference.

We also changed the funding process on this. There are items that the President really wanted on some of the funding. So we said: We are fine on that funding, as long as you don't get that funding until you actually get more detention beds, get more deportation flights, hire more ICE officers, hire more Border Patrol, and actually implement the new policy. When you do that, then you get all of the money that you are actually looking for in the other areas.

We wanted to make sure that, actually, this was going to be implemented. So we included that in the bill today. That is what we have on the floor today, and I am afraid of what I have heard some people say: It is not enough.

So we will make a decision soon. Let me just say this. I have listened to a lot of my colleagues in the last several days, as well I should. I have listened for months. Some people legitimately want more time to read the bill. I will tell you it is 370 pages. It is incredibly technical. And I have had several colleagues say: I started to read it, and it makes my head hurt to read it because immigration law is very complicated.

So they are going through it, and they said: Hey, I am interested in supporting this. I just need more time.

Some of those folks are going to vote no today because they legitimately need more time. I completely understand that.

There are some folks who are voting no today because they have policy differences on the bill. We have asylum officers that are empowered to make decisions; they want immigration judges to make it. OK, that is a policy difference on it.

Some folks don't like that we have visas that are in this. That increases

legal immigration—not illegal, legal immigration—in the country. There are some folks that don't want any immigration of any type. Well, fine, we can have that policy difference. I don't mind legal immigration. I just don't want illegal immigration.

Some of them may have policy differences. Some of them have been very clear with me that they have political differences with the bill. They say it is the wrong time to solve the problem, or let the Presidential election solve this problem.

In fact, I had a popular commentator, 4 weeks ago, that I talked to, that told me flat out, before they knew any of the contents of the bill—any of the contents, nothing was out at that point—that told me flat out: If you try to move a bill that solves the border crisis during this Presidential year, I will do whatever I can to destroy you, because I do not want you to solve this during the Presidential election.

By the way, they have been faithful to their promise and have done everything they can to destroy me in the past several weeks.

There are other folks that read the Facebook posts and the Twitter posts and saw different facts that they thought might be true, but I have personally told them over and over again they are false. And it has been hard to overcome.

For some reason, we still believe everything we read on the internet, and it has been hard to be able to break through. A few weeks ago, I posted one of my favorite quotes from Charles Haddon Spurgeon, who was a preacher from England in the 1850s, where he once said:

A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth gets its boots on.

And it couldn't have proved to be more true than this. I have seen posts like, "There is amnesty in this bill," so that people are adamantly opposed that there is amnesty in the bill.

I would say that some of my Democratic colleagues wanted to have some amnesty in this bill, but there wasn't, and there is not anything on amnesty in this bill.

I have heard folks say it weakens our asylum laws, when it actually does the opposite. It far strengthens our asylum laws, so we can get to actual asylees faster, and those who are gaming the system are turned around.

I have had folks say it takes away the "Remain in Mexico" policy so they can never come back. It does nothing of that at all—nothing of that.

I have had folks say it gives away work permits the very first day, which will incentivize more people to come, when it actually does exactly the opposite. It actually removes the 1,500 work permits that are passed out every day and says we are not going to do that.

And my favorite one has been: It lets 5,000 aliens in every single day from here on out forever.

And I have just said that is completely absurd. Why would anyone—

anyone—sign a bill, approve a bill, or present a bill that locks us into this chaos. That is what we have now. The 5,000 piece was very simple. If we get to 5,000 a day, we can't process that many people anymore. It is a critical emergency. We break glass and say we are not even going to try to do hearings anymore. Everybody has got to turn around. Everything is shut down so we can make sure that we can actually legally process people. We are detaining, screening, and deporting until we get to a break-glass moment, and then we are not even screening anymore. We are just detaining and deporting because we can't manage the numbers.

But that is not what has been told. What has been told has been false day after day.

And then, as I have mentioned, I have had a few folks that have said: If I can't get everything, I want nothing.

I don't find most Americans are that way just in their day-to-day life. We have high goals and aspirations as Americans, and, quite frankly, I don't blame Americans for being really angry and frustrated about where we are at the border—really angry and frustrated.

But what I hear from most Oklahomans is: Do something. Don't just sit there. Do something. Make progress. But don't allow this to keep going. Stop it where you can. So that is what we worked do.

Now, to be clear, President Biden has authorities he could have used that he has chosen not to. Authorities that President Trump used, authorities that President Obama used, President Biden has chosen not to use. There are a lot of them. And for whatever reason, he has turned his head away from the chaos that America is focused on, and he needs to do what he can to solve this problem.

But we also need to make changes in law. Our asylum law is weak. Everyone knows this. In fact, when President Trump was President, he even made the statements about how weak our laws are on asylum. When President Trump was President, he said, "We do a very good job considering the laws are so bad. They are not archaic; they are incompetent. It is not that they are old; they are just bad."

Well, guess what this bill does. Fixes that because the laws have a gap, and we should actually fix those things.

What the President cannot do is change the asylum laws. He cannot change the faster deportations for people crossing. He cannot add an emergency authority like this. He cannot conduct faster hearings with limited appeals so we can get to deporting people who are not legal here and addressing those who are. We can't do that without a change in law, so we need to change the law.

I am going to vote yes to be able to move on to this bill. So we need a change in the law. I understand we have differences, but we have got to sit down together, figure out how we are

going to solve problems because the American people sent us here to do that.

This is the pen that I was handed at that desk when I was sworn into the U.S. Senate, and I signed a book that was at that desk with this pen because I was becoming a U.S. Senator because the people at home sent me here to get stuff done and to solve problems. There is no reason for me to have this pen if we are just going to do press conferences. I can do press conferences from anywhere, but we can only make law from this room. And to do that, you need one of these pens, and there are 100 of them in this room, and 60 of us have to agree to solve a problem.

And I am determined to sit down with anyone who wants to solve the problem, regardless of what side of the aisle that they are on, to figure out how we solve these things because Americans are ticked off that this is not resolved, and they expect us to get things done. So why don't we do that?

I have two staff members named Sarah Seitz and Jacob Stubbs, who have worked their tails off for 4 months. They gave up Thanksgiving; they gave up Christmas; they gave up New Year's to work on this. They are remarkable leaders. But it is not just about the time they gave up and the wisdom that they have as leaders, their focus on that was to solve a problem that at the end of this day, may still be a problem unsolved. And tomorrow, we will probably have 6,500 people illegally cross our border just like what is happening right now, today—6,500 people.

Americans want that stopped. So let's actually sit down and figure out how we are going to stop it together.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I come to speak before the vote today, but I do hope that all of my colleagues heard the Senator from Oklahoma, heard his powerful words, especially the last several minutes, and pause and think about it. They were critically important for each one of us to think about, and I thank the Senator for all of his work on this and for his powerful statement just now.

But if you want to understand why people can't stand politics, watch how many Republicans vote against this bill. Some of my colleagues do not seem to understand this is not a game. There is a war happening right now in Ukraine where our allies are being gunned down and Putin is rolling his tanks into their homeland. There is a war happening right now between Israel and Hamas. There are civilians at this very moment caught in the crossfire. There are partners in the Indo-Pacific wondering if they can count on us. And let's not forget, there is the border, the site of countless Republican photo ops, where we have a genuine need of reforms and resources.

That is the moment we are in. That is the moment that this package is

meant to address. And by voting it down, Republicans will be telling our allies, our word cannot be trusted; telling dictators like Putin that our threats are not serious; telling the world, American leadership has been hollowed out by Republican obstructionism. And let's be clear, they will be telling the American people they don't want to solve the crisis at the border; they want to campaign on it because if you genuinely believe something is a crisis, you take any step you can to address it. You don't let a fire burn because Donald Trump wants to campaign on ashes.

We have heard a lot of talk from Republicans about the border, about countering the Chinese Government, about supporting Israel and standing up to Putin. But governing is about action. Governing is about compromise. Governing is about standing behind your word in order to solve problems.

And I am sorry to say that despite the talks from many Republicans about continuing to support Ukraine, they have yet to join us in actually voting for serious aid for Ukraine since last Congress.

As the minority leader admitted yesterday, this was all because his side, Republicans, insisted—insisted—Ukraine aid be tied to border policies—a standard, by the way, that they have not applied to any of our other allies and one that tells every country who would partner with us that you better hope you don't become leverage for an unrelated, partisan demand.

It was an absurd request. I have said so from the start. But a lot hangs in the balance, so Democrats listened to them and took them at their word and have been glued to the negotiating table in order to address this problem, and I want to thank, from the bottom of my heart, my colleagues—to Senator SINEMA, to Senator LANKFORD, to Senator MURPHY—they worked so long and hard to hammer out a deal on border policies, one that is, quite frankly, more conservative than many of us would have liked, including myself.

But I worked tirelessly with my vice chair, the senior Senator from Maine, to ensure that the border resources were there to help address this problem. And through listening and compromising and working together in good faith, we reached a bipartisan agreement to fund the border policies that others negotiated.

And now after saying they had to have both of these in the package in order to support it, Republicans are now poised to kill it. Republicans went from "We demand border policy changes" to "No policy is needed." They went from "We need time to look at this bill" to "Dead on arrival" in less than 24 hours. They went from "The border is a crisis right now" to "It can wait until November," in the blink of an eye—and will not support the bipartisan policy nor the bipartisan funding.

What changed? What changed? Well, Donald Trump ordered Republicans to

kill the bipartisan border deal. Trump has not been subtle. He has literally said: "Please blame it on me," if this deal goes down in flames, and there is no action on the border.

And we are going to see today just how many Republicans fall in line, and it may well be most of them. But I would remind my colleagues, the American people are the ones who sent us here, not Donald Trump. They are the ones we should answer to, not Donald Trump. And I think we all know the folks back home sent us here to solve problems—to solve problems—not to block bipartisan solutions. They want us to work together. They want us to make progress, even when it isn't perfect.

And, frankly, if that doesn't convince you to support this bill, if you are still thinking about what is good politics, not good policy, I still don't know why you would listen to Donald Trump because solving problems, that is good politics. Maintaining America's national security, that is good politics.

So I hope all of my Republican colleagues will think about this vote carefully. How long will you give Donald Trump a permanent veto over whatever policy he decides he doesn't like or isn't helpful to him personally? I have to ask: What is the point of being a Senator if you let Donald Trump make all of the decisions for you?

It wasn't so long ago that Donald Trump incited an actual insurrection. We all had to flee or we barricaded ourselves into our offices. Did any of my colleagues on the other side think you would let that same man dictate what policy you could or couldn't even debate? It was just 3 short years ago that some of you, on the other side, voted—and many of us voted—to remove Trump from office.

So I ask my colleagues: Please listen when I say today is a critical vote. Today is a day to decide. Today is a vote about whether we, as U.S. Senators, will keep our word when we negotiate with each other. Today is a day we, as U.S. Senators, will vote to show we will work together to stand up for American interests and national security at home and abroad. And today is a day we, as Senators, show the world we are a country that stands behind our word and stands with our allies and works past politics to do what is right for this country and the people we were sent here to represent.

I hope my colleagues will think about that long and hard, and then I sincerely hope they will do the right thing and abandon the MAGA politics.

There is so much work we have left to do together moving forward, and you should all know me well enough to know I am always ready to work together, not against one another. So even if this vote fails, I am determined to not let partisanship win the day. We are going to try again to pass a package that gets our allies the aid they so desperately need, and I hope before we get to that, that every Senator in this

body listens to what the Senator from Oklahoma said and pauses and thinks about what their word means to the people who sent them here to do the right thing for our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Ms. SINEMA. I stand here today as the border crisis is devastating my State. Just last week, Nogales officers seized 2.1 million fentanyl pills at a port of entry. Just last week, Border Patrol agents recovered in the Tucson desert enough fentanyl to kill 340,000 Americans. Just last week, nearly 14,000 migrants crossed into Arizona—many of them are military-aged men coming from all across the globe.

Our broken border system is a national security crisis. Last September, when my Republican colleagues demanded, with a clear and unified voice, that border security must be included in Congress's national security package, I wholeheartedly agreed. Finally, it seemed, we had the opportunity to solve the nightmare my State has lived for over 40 years.

So I got to work. My Republican colleagues chose Senator JAMES LANKFORD, my partner on the Homeland Security Border Management Subcommittee. We have worked together for over 5 years on strong border policy. Senator LANKFORD has joined me at the Arizona border to see the crisis firsthand. Senator LANKFORD is an incredibly smart, earnest, conservative lawmaker. I know he was chosen by his conference because of his expertise and knowledge of border security policy and his reputation as a serious conservative lawmaker who cares deeply about getting policy right.

As we started the negotiation, Senator LANKFORD laid out four policy pillars the Republican conference needed to secure the border.

No. 1, asylum. Raise the asylum standard and close the loopholes so cartels and economic migrants can no longer exploit the system.

No. 2, safe third country. Ensure that people who have lived safely in another country don't backlog our system because they do not qualify for asylum.

No. 3, close the border. Create a title 42-like authority to shut down the border when our system is backlogged and overwhelmed.

No. 4, parole. Stop the administration from giving migrants at the border a free pass into our country.

Over the course of nearly 5 months, we worked every single day navigating the intricate and difficult policy decisions to meet these four pillars. And when we hit bumps, I reminded everyone at the table about what was happening on the ground at my border—what real life looks like in Arizona—because I knew that those four key pillars were necessary to secure the border and solve the crisis.

That is why, just yesterday when endorsing our bill, Yuma Mayor Doug Nicholls said:

Thank you . . . for incorporating many of the specific issues that border leaders have asked to be addressed.

So together with Senators LANKFORD and MURPHY and our incredibly talented staffs, including my staff director on the Border Management Subcommittee, Anthony Papián, who is here today, we worked through weekends and through holidays to get these policies right. Senator MURPHY, Senator LANKFORD, and I—we all negotiated in good faith.

We delivered. We produced a bill many thought impossible. Our bill overhauls the broken system. It stops the misuse of parole, and it closes the border during surges, ensuring the quick detention and deportation of migrants who don't have a legal right to be here. We end catch-and-release. We add more detention beds. We increase deportation flights. We quickly decide asylum claims. We put Border Patrol back in the desert catching the bad guys and the drugs.

That is why the National Border Patrol Council endorses our bill, not H.R. 2. We produced a bill that finally, after decades of all talk and no action, secures the border and solves the border crisis.

Our bill was ready for prime time. We were ready to bring the bill to the floor, open it up for debate and amendments—you know, how the Senate is supposed to work—and then pass the bill.

But less than 24 hours after we released the bill, my Republican colleagues changed their minds. Turns out they want all talk and no action. It turns out border security is not actually a risk to our national security; it is just a talking point for the election.

After all of their cable news appearances, after all those campaign photo ops in the desert, after all those trips to the border, this crisis isn't actually much of a crisis after all.

Sunday morning, there was a real crisis at the border. Monday morning, that crisis magically disappeared.

Well, guess what, guys. The crisis is real.

It is real in Arizona. On Sunday, the day we released our bill, over 6,000 migrants crossed the border. On Monday, the day this body decided the border crisis was no longer a crisis, over 6,500 migrants crossed the border. And yesterday, the day the Republican conference Members said that we are not going to pass a border bill, the day my colleagues said no, nearly 7,000 migrants crossed the border.

The border emergency authority in our border bill would have shut the border down, literally, every single day this year.

Now, I have been sharing the facts of our bill to anyone who would listen. I have refuted the lie that says our bill allows 5,000 migrants to enter the country every day. In fact, our bill stops those migrants from coming into the country every day.

Meanwhile, by killing our bill, we have no title 42-like authority to shut

down the border. So, 5,000, 6,000, 7,000, 10,000, or even 14,000 migrants can cross into our country every single day.

Make no mistake—a vote against this bill is a vote for the status quo. It is a vote for continued chaos at our border.

Our current system lets migrants into the country with nothing but a piece of paper—a notice to appear for a court day years into the future and no accountability structure to ensure they actually show up.

In Arizona, this broken system is commonly called catch-and-release. It has been happening for years.

Our bill ends catch-and-release. But when this bill fails, catch-and-release will continue every single day.

Some people say the President has all the authority he needs to secure the border. Then, tell me why Arizona has lived the nightmare of our border crisis for over 40 years and through the past five administrations—Republican and Democratic? Before COVID, the last administration tried to shut down the border. The courts stopped it. After COVID, the courts struck down title 42.

It is clear: We need a law.

I have heard from some that the only solution is the House Republican bill, H.R. 2. To them, I'd point out that our bill, unlike H.R. 2, actually includes penalties for those who try to cross the border when it is shut down, creating a 1-year bar for anyone who tries to cross twice. H.R. 2? No consequences.

H.R. 2 continues the current flawed policy that allows migrants to get work permits without any asylum interview. Our bill ends that. That is why the conservative Wall Street Journal Editorial Board called our bill the most restrictive migrant legislation in decades.

We make sure only those actually fleeing violence and persecution can stay here and work, after they pass a new, faster, tougher screening.

And if someone doesn't finish the asylum process, their work permit gets taken away. H.R. 2? Silent.

H.R. 2 doesn't even fund new detention beds, guys. H.R. 2—another example of all talk and no action.

So if you want to spin the border crisis for your own political agendas, go right ahead.

If you want to continue to use the southern border as a backdrop for your political campaign, that is fine. Good luck to you.

But I have a very clear message for anyone using the southern border for staged political events: Don't come to Arizona. Take your political theater to Texas. Do not bring it to my State, because in Arizona, we are serious. We don't have time for your political games. We are not interested in you posing for the cameras.

In Arizona, we are busy. Just ask Cochise County ranchers David and Tina Thompson. They live in the reality of our broken border every time that migrants attempt to break into their home.

Ask Bisbee City Council member Leslie Johns, who had to open the doors of the town's city council building and clear out the chambers for migrants to sleep on the floor after they were released into a tiny town with no shelter and just one bus stop.

Or ask Yuma farmer John Boelts who does his best to manage his farm despite the lettuce crops constantly trampled by migrants crossing his produce fields.

Or ask Bernadette Nez, the manager of Why Not Travel convenience store in Why, AZ, who lost thousands of dollars every day before Christmas while the Lukeville port of entry was closed.

Or ask Sierra Vista Mayor Clea McCaa, who lays in bed at night scared that his teenage daughter could die in one of the daily, deadly high-speed chases of teenagers smuggling drugs and people from the border up to Phoenix and, next, into your State.

Or ask Bisbee Mayor Ken Budge, who is pleading with each and every one of you to understand how your political games hurt border towns like his. As he said yesterday:

I am saddened after all these months, now some Senators have second thoughts about this from both parties . . .

. . . I would like to ask any of them to reverse their roles and trade places with me. How they would like to live in my home as a helicopter circled my home at 6:30 in the morning for about an hour, as was the case today.

This is life in my border State. This is Arizona.

Earlier this week, it was noted that while facts on the border haven't changed, the politics in the country have changed.

I guess that is it. The politics changed.

Three weeks ago, everyone wanted to solve the border crisis. Yesterday, no one did.

For 4 months, we were stymied on action to support our allies and stand up to Putin's illegal war. For 4 months, we have been unable to move forward—unable to defend democracy overseas because of the urgent need to secure our border.

And then, suddenly, in the last 48 hours, the border no longer matters.

Some in this Chamber say: Let's just drop it. Hey, let's wait for the election. Let's sort this out in the next Congress. Let's move on.

Arizona can't move on.

You here can decide this crisis is over, but the crisis is still real in my State. And it will be tomorrow and the next day and the next day.

I usually end my speeches by calling on the better angels of our nature. When we work together, we can solve problems.

We did that here, and you decided no. You decided you don't even want to debate it. You don't want to amend it. You don't want to tackle the problem. Partisanship won. The Senate has failed Arizona.

Shameful.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. First, I thank the Senator from Arizona for her strong, courageous, and heartfelt words.

Now, briefly, Madam President, Senators have a chance to show precisely where they stand: Are they for border security or are they not?

The choice is plain and simple, and this vote will show precisely who is serious about securing the border and who is not.

We hope our Republican colleagues, so many of whom know this is the right thing to do, will not bend to the wishes of Donald Trump, who only wants chaos.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Now, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to H.R. 815 be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 30, H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Mark R. Warner, Michael F. Bennet, Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Richard J. Durbin, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Kyrsten Sinema, Jack Reed, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Christopher Murphy, Brian Schatz.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 39 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Kaine	Shaheen
Butler	Kelly	Sinema
Cantwell	King	Smith
Cardin	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Carper	Lankford	Tester
Casey	Lujan	Van Hollen
Collins	Manchin	Warner
Coons	Merkley	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Welch
Duckworth	Murphy	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murray	Wyden
Fetterman	Ossoff	
Gillibrand	Peters	

NAYS—50

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Rounds
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sanders
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Schumer
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Markey	Sullivan
Cotton	Marshall	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tuberville
Crapo	Menendez	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Vance
Daines	Mullin	Warren
Ernst	Padilla	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young
Graham	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—1

Lummis

(Ms. ROSEN assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 50.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote whereby cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to H.R. 815, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

The result was announced—yeas 58, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 40 Leg.]

YEAS—58

Baldwin	Fetterman	Menendez
Bennet	Gillibrand	Merkley
Blumenthal	Hassan	Moran
Booker	Heinrich	Murkowski
Brown	Hickenlooper	Murphy
Butler	Hirono	Murray
Cantwell	Kaine	Ossoff
Cardin	Kelly	Padilla
Carper	Kennedy	Peters
Casey	King	Reed
Collins	Klobuchar	Romney
Coons	Lujan	Rosen
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Schatz
Duckworth	Markey	Schumer
Durbin	McConnell	Shaheen

Sinema	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Smith	Warner	Wyden
Stabenow	Warnock	Young
Tester	Warren	
Tillis	Welch	

NAYS—41

Barrasso	Ernst	Ricketts
Blackburn	Fischer	Risch
Boozman	Graham	Rounds
Braun	Grassley	Rubio
Britt	Hagerty	Sanders
Budd	Hawley	Schmitt
Capito	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Johnson	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	Mullin	Wicker
Daines	Paul	

NOT VOTING—1

Lummis

The motion was agreed to.

(Ms. BUTLER assumed the Chair.)

(Ms. CORTEZ MASTO assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, we have just finished the vote on the motion to reconsider. We will recess until tomorrow and give our Republican colleagues the night to figure themselves out. We will be coming back tomorrow at noon, and, hopefully, that will give the Republicans the time they need. We will have this vote tomorrow.

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING WILLIAM H. "BILL" NORTHEY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, this week, a dear friend of mine and the Grassley family passed away unexpectedly at age 64. A fourth-generation family farmer, Bill Northey was a son of the soil from Northwest Iowa, where Iowa Nice and a strong work ethic run through the bloodstreams in smalltown Iowa.

Bill graduated from Iowa State University in 1981 with an undergraduate degree in agricultural business. A quarter-century later, he earned a master of business administration from Southwest Minnesota State University. After graduating from Iowa State, Bill returned home to the family farm near Spirit Lake, IA, in Dickinson County. Here, Bill practiced what he preached. The Northey family farm implemented conservation-friendly farming practices, including reduced tillage, cover crops, and GPS on its corn and soybean acres.

At age 20, in the midst of the farm crisis in 1985, Bill was the only local farmer to show up at a meeting organized by the Iowa Corn Growers Association. Unbeknownst to Bill at the time, that meeting launched his public service career. He ran for the Iowa Corn Growers board and, later on, became president of the Iowa Corn Growers Association and the National Corn Growers Association.

His resume reflects his lifelong commitment to and champion for Iowa ag-

riculture. Bill cut his teeth in public service at the grassroots, where he served as a commissioner of the Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District and rose through the ranks of the Iowa Farm Bureau at the county and State levels. In 2006, he ran and won a statewide election to serve as Iowa Agriculture Secretary, where he served from 2007 to 2018. He served at the helm of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for 11 years, winning reelection in 2010 and 2014. Under his leadership, Bill championed renewable fuels, a statewide voluntary water quality program and led Iowa producers through animal disease outbreaks, including the State's bird flu outbreak in 2014-2015 that has helped guide responses today to the highly contagious disease.

President Trump tapped Bill to serve as the first USDA Undersecretary for Farm Production and Conservation, where he served under Ag Secretary Sonny Perdue until 2021. Bill was caught in some crossfire over regional disputes related to the Renewable Fuel Standard. Without hesitation, I went toe-to-toe with Texas Senators in support of his nomination. Bill was highly qualified and deserving of the responsibility to serve in this leadership role for America's farmers. Bill never wavered in his patience and commitment to public service. He weathered the nomination storm with grace and self-sacrifice over an issue that is important to the farm economy, U.S. energy independence, national security, and the environment.

Once confirmed to the USDA post, Bill oversaw a division with 21,000 employees who worked across 3,000 locations. Traveling to 48 of 50 States, Bill expanded his agrarian horizons beyond the row crops of Middle America. But for Bill, there was no place like home. After leaving the USDA, Bill returned to Iowa and was hired to lead the Agribusiness Association of Iowa, an organization whose 1,100-plus membership supplies feed, seed, crop protection chemicals, grain, fertilizer, equipment, and more to support Iowa's agricultural supply chain across the State.

Bill was a natural leader. His decades of advocacy for Iowa agriculture came naturally. It was rooted bone-deep in his heritage as family farmer. A steward of the soil, Bill understood that a farmer's livelihood hinges on protecting natural resources and the whims of Mother Nature. He brought dirt-underneath-the-fingernails work experience to the policymaking table where his voice mattered. That was because Bill spoke with authority, with farm-calloused hands and the authenticity of a farmer's heart. He knew the challenges farmers faced from 1 year to the next. A soft-spoken leader, Bill had gravitational pull with the people he worked with and for the people he served. He was approachable, affable, and put in the work. A thoughtful leader, Bill was a problem-solver who led by example. As one of the architects of

the Nutrient Reduction Strategy and early adopter of cover crops to improve water quality, Bill was known to tell farmers, whose livelihoods depend on environmental stewardship, that such programs are voluntary, but “not optional.”

Named an Iowa Master Farmer in 2016, the Iowa farm community has lost a giant. Barbara and I have lost a dear friend. His leadership and friendship will be missed. Iowa farmers will benefit from his work to promote conservation and their work to feed and fuel the world for generations to come. To his beloved wife Cindy, three daughters, grandchildren, extended family, and loved ones, Barbara and I send our prayers and condolences. May Bill's memory heal your hearts and evoke smiles and laughter around the dinner table in the days and years to come.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, last week marked the beginning of Black History Month. And so I come to the floor today to celebrate the important roles Black Americans have played both in my home State of Maryland and in U.S. foreign policy.

Paying homage to our country's rich Black heritage—including learning about the challenges Black Americans have overcome—makes our Nation stronger, both at home and abroad. But in recent years, this history has become increasingly polarized and politicized.

The rise of the “war on woke” has led to a growing hostility toward diversity and inclusivity. It has led to the rewriting and even omitting, of brutal, but significant parts of our Nation's story.

We cannot allow this to overshadow our celebration. We must not shy away from studying our Nation's history with thoughtful critique. We should not settle for sanitized lessons of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, and others in America's classrooms—because Black History Month, like many of our cultural heritage months, should be a time to illuminate stories that may otherwise get lost. Overlooking such stories, especially in a State like Maryland, a place rich with Black history, would be a travesty—Maryland, the site of Kunta Kinte's arrival at the docks in Annapolis, as told in Alex Haley's “Roots”; Maryland, home to greats like Harriet Tubman and Thurgood Marshall; Maryland, where Black watermen have lived on the Eastern Shore for generations.

This week, I had the privilege of meeting with Black watermen and their families, families who were some of the original stewards of the Chesapeake Bay. They were boat captains and admirals, fishermen and entrepreneurs, oyster shuckers and crab pickers. They laid the foundation for the aquaculture and maritime industry that is so heavily stitched in the fabric

of Maryland's culture. They were descendants of William Samuel Turner whose family owned and operated seafood processing enterprises that anchored Bellevue, a historic African-American neighborhood on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Frederick Jewett, one of the first in the Chesapeake Bay to sell crabs and crabmeat and developed the crabmeat grading system that we still use today; Capt. Eldridge Meredith, Sr., a waterman and entrepreneur who was honored as the 101st Admiral of the Chesapeake Bay, and Downes Curtis, one of the country's few Black sailmakers who was renowned for his skillful craftsmanship.

They were descendants of the often-overlooked Black women, like Hazel Cropper, also known as “Hurricane Hazel,” who worked in the packing houses picking crabs, women who became the backbone of Maryland's crab meat industry.

These Black Marylanders left a legacy of progress and success, but their stories also echo a system of inequality that exists today. Many of Maryland's Black watermen were redlined. They couldn't get loans. They weren't paid fairly. And they lacked access to capital to keep their businesses afloat when they suffered economic hardship.

Maryland's congressional delegation has made Federal investments in historic preservation to ensure that Maryland's Black history is told because it has laid the foundation for Wes Moore, Maryland's first Black Governor; Adrienne Jones, Maryland's first Black speaker of the house of delegates; Anthony Brown, Maryland's first Black attorney general; Dereck Davis, Maryland's first Black State treasurer; and Brandon Scott, Baltimore's youngest Black mayor.

Of course, Black leaders have not only contributed to Maryland, but to our Nation, like Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Marcia Fudge, EPA Administrator Michael Regan, and OMB Director Shalanda Young. And now, we are proud to have our first Black woman on the Supreme Court, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson and Black leaders have contributed around the world. And so, as chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I also want to take a moment to highlight the incredible contributions of Black Americans in U.S. foreign policy.

Ebenezer Bassett, the first Black diplomat who served as Ambassador to Haiti from 1869 to 1877; Nobel Laureate Dr. Ralph Bunche, who mediated the 1949 Egyptian-Israeli Armistice Agreement and fought for African independence; Ambassador Edward Perkins and Dr. Richard Hope, founders of the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship; Valerie Dickson-Horton, one of the first Black women to serve as a USAID Mission Director and Assistant Administrator; Peace Corps Di-

rector Aaron Williams; and Linda Thomas-Greenfield, the U.S. Ambassador to the UN. These are pioneers and visionaries who have advanced our national security.

The truth is that America's diverse talent pool is one of the most valuable assets we have on the global stage. And yet, in the last 20 years, the number of Black employees at the State Department has decreased. It is why the Department, USAID, DFC, Peace Corps, and all of our international affairs Agencies must expand their diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. And, following the tremendous efforts of Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley, I am awaiting the announcement of the State Department's new chief diversity officer.

Hard-won progress made thanks to the Rangel, Pickering, and Payne programs alongside paid internship programs must continue. Exchange programs and research partnerships with historically Black colleges and universities must grow. With four HBCUs in my State, I can personally attest to the brilliance and talent these institutions contribute to our Nation's global food, health, climate, economic, and other efforts which bolster national security.

With the appointment of Desiree Cormier Smith as our Nation's first Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice, our Nation has also increased its efforts abroad. From the North American Partnership for Equity and Racial Justice Declaration to the UN International Decade for People of African Descent, our country is playing an important role in protecting the rights and recognizing the contributions of African descendants across the globe.

At the Foreign Relations Committee, we now have our first director of diversity, equity, and inclusion—Dr. Mischa Thompson—to help advance these efforts in the Senate, our international Agencies, and across the globe. But we must all join this effort.

And so, as we celebrate Black History Month, let us all recommit to fighting to overcome prejudice and oppression. Let us never give up hope that with determination and commitment, we can build the world Dr. King dreamed of—a fair world, a just world, a better world. We can do it as long as we remember what Ralph Bunche's said, that “anything less than full equality is not enough.”

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT OF THE AIR FORCE JOANNE S. BASS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise to recognize and congratulate Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass on her upcoming retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 31 years of distinguished military service to our great Nation.

As the 19th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Bass's unflagging

leadership, relentless initiative, and trailblazing achievements as the highest ranking enlisted member of the U.S. Air Force from August 2020 to March 2024 were vital in leading and developing 689,000 airmen. She used her unique perspective as an enlisted leader to guide and shape the Air Force during the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic, the end of combat operations in Afghanistan, and through one of the most evolving and challenging strategic environments in modern history.

As the senior enlisted adviser to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Chief Bass provided sound advice, perspective, and assistance on matters pertaining to enterprise management, enlisted heritage, force development, servicemember pay and compensation, and future force design. Through her expertise and collaborative efforts with her sister-service senior enlisted advisers, she ensured our Nation's land, sea, air, and space forces will continue to provide unmatched military capability to deter, dissuade, and defeat our enemies.

Additionally, she directly influenced joint, interagency, and coalition teams to redesign and modernize air, space, and cyberspace organizations, resources, and training efforts with a renewed emphasis on enlisted empowerment.

Chief Bass focused airmen on competition and innovation, accelerating the service's necessary transition into the Air Force of tomorrow. Through her reimagining of Air Force foundational documents, creation of the enlisted force development blueprint, and delivery of the first-ever service manual of the joint team called "The Purple Book," she revolutionized the recruiting, development and retention of the greatest talent our Nation has to offer: our people. Her legacy will be forever etched into the history of the Air Force as a changemaker during an incredibly consequential time for our country.

I spent time with Chief Bass during our visit to Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas and at several Capitol Hill engagements as she encouraged congressional support to strengthen military readiness and achieve Air Force priorities. Airmen can be proud of her leadership and advocacy to ensure the United States maintains air superiority in this era of great power competition.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, the Senate Air Force Caucus, and a grateful nation, I extend my deepest appreciation to Chief Bass and her family for their many years of exemplary military service and sacrifice. I wish her nothing but the very best as she begins a new chapter.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ARNOLD

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today in celebration of Joe Arnold, head custodian at Hot Springs County

School District No. 1 in Thermopolis, WY.

Joe's career as a custodian in Wyoming schools spans 60 years. To honor this outstanding achievement, students, teachers, and administrators will gather on February 21, 2024, to celebrate the renaming of the central administration building to the Joe Arnold Central Administration Building.

Joe was 21 years old in 1964 when he began as a custodian for Carbon County School District No. 1 in Rawlins, WY. After 22 years in Rawlins, Joe moved to Thermopolis, where he worked at Hamilton Dome Elementary School. When the elementary school closed, he transferred to the building that now bears his name. Joe's commitment to the school district and its students is unmatched. And his commitment to his community is unmistakable. It is not uncommon to see Joe shoveling snow before sunrise or escorting senior folks to the auditorium for events after school hours.

Joe often invests the money he earns as a custodian back into his community. He pays for countless lunches and school field trips for students who cannot afford them. He has even helped with expenses for higher education. Joe's selflessness and generosity are unrivaled. He is the first to place a bid on auction items at fundraising events, then generously donates them back to be auctioned off again. Joe's true passion lies in helping students. As a mentor, he is always there to listen to their problems and offer advice whenever they need it. Graduation announcements and school photos from former students cover the walls of his office. After six decades of maintaining clean and healthy schools, Joe Arnold has no intention of retiring. However, as he arrives at work each day, Joe now sees his name on the building he works tirelessly to maintain.

It is with great honor that I recognize the exemplary dedication of Joe Arnold. Hard work is the Wyoming way, and few work harder than Joe. My sincere congratulations to Joe Arnold as the Hot Springs County School District No. 1 Central Administration Building is renamed in his honor.

TRIBUTE TO GRETA BROWN

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to express my sincere appreciation for the exceptional service rendered by Ms. Greta Brown during her four-decade tenure at the U.S. Senate Federal Credit Union, USSFCU. Greta has not only been a dedicated employee but has become an integral part of the fabric that binds our Senate community together.

Since 1981, Greta has been a constant presence within the Senate office buildings, witnessing the growth of the USSFCU from a small institution to a vital financial resource for Senators, dignitaries, and congressional staff. Her ability to connect with members, provide insightful financial advice, and

create meaningful relationships has shaped the perception of the credit union within the walls of our office buildings.

Greta's journey is a testament to her commitment, professionalism, and the positive impact she has had on our community. She is a source of inspiration, always demonstrating dedication, poise, and flexibility in her tasks. Ambassador Alfonso E. Lenhardt rightly acknowledges her as one of the finest individuals, embodying the values that define our Senate community.

Many who know Greta echo this sentiment, expressing gratitude for her astute financial advice. Greta's influence extends beyond her role, with many young staffers seeking her guidance as they navigate their financial journeys.

In the spirit of "people helping people," Greta has consistently served members with excellence and compassion. Her impact is evident in the numerous letters of appreciation she has received over the years. Greta is more than a colleague; she is a mentor, adviser, and friend to those fortunate enough to work alongside her.

As the credit union approaches its 90th anniversary, Greta stands as a symbol of continuity, dedication, and the values that define our Senate and Capitol Hill community.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Greta Brown for her outstanding contributions to USSFCU and the broader Senate community. Her legacy will undoubtedly continue to resonate, inspiring us all to strive for excellence and service in our shared mission.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two withdrawals which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14064 OF FEBRUARY 11, 2022, WITH RESPECT TO THE WIDESPREAD HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN—PM 37

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, is to continue in effect beyond February 11, 2024.

The widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan—including the urgent needs of the people of Afghanistan for food security, livelihoods support, water, sanitation, health, hygiene, and shelter and settlement assistance, among other basic human needs—and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. In addition, the preservation of certain property of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) held in the United States by United States financial institutions is of the utmost importance to addressing this national emergency and the welfare of the people of Afghanistan. Various parties, including representatives of victims of terrorism, have asserted legal claims against certain property of DAB or indicated in public court filings an intent to make such claims. This property is blocked under Executive Order 14064.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14014 OF FEBRUARY 10, 2021, WITH RESPECT TO BURMA—PM 38

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with the provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice (stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond February 10, 2024.

The situation in and in relation to Burma, and in particular the February 1, 2021 coup, in which the military overthrew the democratically elected civilian government of Burma and unjustly arrested and detained government leaders, politicians, human rights defenders, journalists, and religious leaders, thereby rejecting the will of the people of Burma as expressed in elections held in November 2020 and undermining the country's democratic transition and rule of law, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to Burma.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 7, 2024.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1727. An act to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company, known collectively as the "Ghost Army", in recognition of unique and highly distinguished service during World War II.

H. Con. Res. 85. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other material to win the war and who were referred to as "Rosie the Riveter", in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:37 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1568. An act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1727. An act to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3456. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Import Restrictions on Archaeological Material of China" ((RIN1515-AE87) (CBP Dec. 24-01)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3457. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certain Maryland Prepaid College Trust Distributions Excluded from Gross Income" (Notice 2024-23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3458. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Corrections to Revenue Procedure 2024-5, Schedule of User Fees in Appendix A" (Announcement 2024-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3459. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additional Interim Guidance Regarding the Application of the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax under Sections 55, 56A, and 59 of the Internal Revenue Code" (Notice 2024-10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3460. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Medicare Beneficiary Ombudsman Calendar Year 2020 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3461. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products:

Monitoring Developments in the Domestic Industry"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3462. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to United States forces conducting discrete strikes against facilities in Iraq used by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-affiliated militia groups for training, logistics support, and other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3463. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to United States forces, as part of a multinational operation alongside the United Kingdom, with support from Australia, Bahrain, Canada, and the Netherlands, conducted discrete strikes against Houthi underground storage sites and locations associated with the Houthis' missile and air surveillance capabilities in Yemen that support and facilitate Houthi militants' attacks in the Red Sea region; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3464. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to United States forces conducting targeted strikes against facilities in Iraq and Syria used by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated militia groups, received during adjournment of the Senate on February 4, 2024; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3465. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to United States forces, as part of a multinational operation alongside the United Kingdom, with support from Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, and New Zealand, conducted strikes in Yemen against facilities, locations, and equipment associated with the Houthis' missile and air surveillance capabilities, unmanned aerial vehicle capabilities, and command and control capabilities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3466. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to various countries in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-022); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3467. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more and the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad to Mexico (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-020); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3468. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Mexico in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-017); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3469. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on the Interdiction of Aircraft Engaged in Illicit Drug Trafficking"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3470. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14078 with respect to hostage-taking and the wrongful detention of United States nationals abroad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3471. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "FAQs about Affordable Care Act Implementation Part 64 [Note: HHS has concluded that the attached guidance document is not a 'rule' within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 804(3). Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, HHS is submitting it for consideration to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General under 5 U.S.C. 801(a)]" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3472. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder" (RIN0930-AA39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3473. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Institutional Review Board Waiver or Alteration of Informed Consent for Minimal Risk Clinical Investigations" (RIN0910-AH52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3474. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Second Temporary Extension of COVID-19 Telemedicine Flexibilities for Prescription of Controlled Medications" (Docket No. DEA-407) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3475. A communication from Associate General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Volunteers in Service to America" (RIN3045-AA70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3476. A communication from Associate General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Annual Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustment" (RIN3045-AA86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3477. A communication from Associate General Counsel, Corporation for National

and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Service Trust Education Awards" (RIN3045-AA66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3478. A communication from the Executive Director for Operations, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Commission's commercial activities inventory; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3479. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3480. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Individual Assistance Program Equity" (RIN1660-AB07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 29, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3481. A communication from the Chair of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of the recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 80th Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3482. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3483. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corps' Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3744. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to lower barriers to increase patient access to health care; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3745. A bill to extend reemployment services and eligibility assessments to all claimants for unemployment benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 3746. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain spouses eligible for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr.

MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3747. A bill to allow individuals with disabilities to campaign for elected office without losing access to federally supported benefits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3748. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to increase voting accessibility for individuals with disabilities and older individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3749. A bill to support local governments for jurisdictions that elect or appoint a person with a disability in providing the accommodations needed for the elected or appointed official to carry out their official work duties, and to build the capacity of local governments to have consistent and adequate funding for accommodations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BUTLER):

S. 3750. A bill to reform the congressional redistricting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3751. A bill to expand and modify the grant program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in highly rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3752. A bill to prohibit requiring a pilot of an unmanned aircraft to hold a medical certificate as a condition for piloting such aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 3753. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide financial assistance to States to implement expanded energy savings performance contracting programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 3754. A bill to establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 3755. A bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 3756. A bill to establish a new pilot program that would test coverage of outpatient observation services furnished outside a hos-

pital under the Acute Hospital Care at Home initiative; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3757. A bill to reauthorize the congenital heart disease research, surveillance, and awareness program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 3758. A bill to address security vulnerabilities with respect to unmanned aircraft systems used by civilian Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3759. A bill to assist entrepreneurs and support development of the creative economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 3760. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out emergency watershed protection measures on National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3761. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to reauthorize the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network and establish a national agricultural crisis hotline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3762. A bill to prohibit certain discrimination against athletes on the basis of sex by State athletic associations, intercollegiate athletic associations, and covered institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3763. A bill to direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program to establish, implement, and administer violent incident clearance and technology investigative methods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COONS, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 3764. A bill to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through fiscal year 2026; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

S. 3765. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 3766. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for outreach and education to Medicare beneficiaries to simplify access to information for family caregivers through 1-800-MEDICARE, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. THUNE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. COT-

TON, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. LEE, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S.J. Res. 61. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 31

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 31, a bill to provide for the development and issuance of a plan to increase oil and gas production on Federal land in conjunction with a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

S. 704

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for interest-free deferment on student loans for borrowers serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program.

S. 722

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit certain expenses associated with obtaining or maintaining recognized postsecondary credentials to be treated as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.

S. 1036

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1036, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1064, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1183, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on source of income, veteran status, or military status.

S. 1602

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1602, a bill to provide for grants to address maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders, and for other purposes.

S. 2032

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2032, a bill to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, and for other purposes.

S. 2277

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2277, a bill to increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2327

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2327, a bill to provide support for nationals of Afghanistan who supported the United States mission in Afghanistan, adequate vetting for parolees from Afghanistan, adjustment of status for eligible individuals, and special immigrant status for at-risk Afghan allies and relatives of certain members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2429

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2429, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks.

S. 2825

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2825, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 3094

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3094, a bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed rule with respect to emissions from vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 3141

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3141, a bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

S. 3193

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3193, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow for the use of telehealth in substance use disorder treatment, and for other purposes.

S. 3276

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3276, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow certain alien veterans to be paroled into the United States to receive health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 3278

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3278, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to identify each alien who is serving, or has served, in the Armed Forces of the United States on the application of any such alien for an immigration benefit or the placement of any such alien in an immigration enforcement proceeding, and for other purposes.

S. 3280

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3280, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a veterans visa program to permit veterans who have been removed from the United States to return as immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3578

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3578, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for the administrative costs of providing health benefits to individuals who are unauthorized immigrants.

S. 3616

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3616, a bill to require additional disclosures relating to donations to the Presidential Inaugural Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 3651

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3651, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure coverage of mental health services furnished through telehealth.

S. 3657

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3657, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and make the credit fully refundable for certain taxpayers.

S. 3659

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3659, a bill to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all persons.

S. 3741

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3741, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from restricting funding for pregnancy centers.

S.J. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. RES. 2, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3757. A bill to reauthorize the congenital heart disease research, surveillance, and awareness program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3757

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, AND AWARENESS.

Section 399V–2 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–13) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (h) and (i), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) **STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Secretary shall convene a workshop composed of subject matter experts, on adult patients living with congenital heart disease, to—

“(A) identify research gaps and opportunities related to the lifelong needs of congenital heart disease patients, including long-term health outcomes, quality of life, mental health, and health care utilization;

“(B) assess the workforce capacity in the United States of health care providers who treat adult patients living with congenital heart disease, and options to address any such shortages in such workforce, which may include strategies to expand fellowship training programs and support regional care centers; and

“(C) foster collaboration and dissemination of information across Federal agencies, health care providers, researchers, and patient organizations.

“(2) **COMPOSITION.**—The workshop described in paragraph (1) shall be led by the Secretary, and shall involve participants that include, as appropriate, stakeholders representing patient organizations, health care professionals, research entities, health insurance providers, accrediting organizations, and relevant Federal agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

“(g) **REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Secretary shall issue a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives on findings and recommendations of the Secretary with respect to strategies to advance research related to the lifelong needs of congenital heart disease patients and address workforce shortages of providers for adult patients living with congenital heart disease, and, as appropriate, progress made by the Secretary to implement such strategies and a plan for implementing such recommendations.”; and

(3) in subsection (i), as so redesignated, by striking “2020 through 2024” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1388. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement

for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1389. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. Kaine, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1390. Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1391. Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1392. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1388. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Security Act, 2024”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short Title.

Sec. 2. Table of Contents.

Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—NATIONAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

DIVISION B—FEND OFF FENTANYL ACT

Title I—Sanctions matters

Title II—Anti-money laundering matters

Title III—Exception relating to importation of goods

Title IV—Budgetary effects

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—NATIONAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Military Personnel, Army”, \$207,158,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Military Personnel, Marine Corps”, \$3,538,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Military Personnel, Air Force”, \$23,302,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, SPACE FORCE

For an additional amount for “Military Personnel, Space Force”, \$4,192,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Army”, \$4,887,581,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Navy”, \$1,534,163,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base, and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$976,405,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$557,758,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, shall be to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps”, \$69,045,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as

being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force”, \$846,869,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SPACE FORCE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Space Force”, \$8,443,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, \$34,230,780,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situations in Israel, Ukraine, and Taiwan and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$13,772,460,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative shall be available to the Secretary of Defense under the same terms and conditions as are provided for under this heading in the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division M of Public Law 117-328), and shall be available notwithstanding section 8135 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023 (division C of Public Law 117-328) or any similar provision in any other Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, up to \$4,400,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, may be transferred to accounts under the headings “Operation and Maintenance”, “Procurement”, and “Revolving and Management Funds” for replacement, through new procurement or repair of existing unserviceable equipment, of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, and for reimbursement for defense services of the Department of Defense and military education and training, provided to or identified for provision to the Government of Israel or to foreign countries that have provided support to Israel at the request of the United States: *Provided further*, That up to \$13,414,432,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, may be transferred to accounts under the headings “Operation and Maintenance”, “Procurement”, and “Revolving and Management Funds” for replacement, through new procurement or repair of existing unserviceable equipment, of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, and for reimbursement for defense services of the Department of Defense and military education and training, provided to or identified for provision to the Government of Ukraine or to foreign countries that have provided support to Ukraine at the request of the United States: *Provided further*, That up to \$1,900,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, may be transferred to accounts under the headings “Operation and

Maintenance”, “Procurement”, and “Revolving and Management Funds” for replacement, through new procurement or repair of existing unserviceable equipment, of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, and for reimbursement for defense services of the Department of Defense and military education and training, provided to or identified for provision to the Government of Taiwan or to foreign countries that have provided support to Taiwan at the request of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds transferred pursuant to the preceding three provisos shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which the funds are transferred: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of such transfers not less than 15 days before any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back and merged with this appropriation: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Missile Procurement, Army”, \$2,742,757,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Procurement of Ammunition, Army”, \$6,414,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$801,400,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Israel and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$5,612,900,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Army”, \$308,991,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Weapons Procurement, Navy”, \$706,976,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”,

\$2,155,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, funds shall be available as follows:

Columbia Class Submarine (AP), \$1,955,000,000; and

Virginia Class Submarine (AP), \$200,000,000: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Navy”, \$319,570,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base, and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$26,000,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$293,570,000 shall be to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Marine Corps”, \$212,443,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Missile Procurement, Air Force”, \$366,001,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Air Force”, \$2,808,678,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for other expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Defense-Wide”, \$5,246,780,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$4,000,000,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome and David’s Sling defense systems to counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$1,200,000,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Beam defense system to counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided further*, That funds in the preceding provisos shall be transferred pursuant to an exchange of letters and are in addition to funds provided pursuant to the

U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement, as amended: *Provided further*, That nothing under this heading in this Act shall be construed to apply to amounts made available in prior appropriations Acts for the procurement of the Iron Dome and David's Sling defense systems or for the procurement of the Iron Beam defense system: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$46,780,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

For an additional amount for "Defense Production Act Purchases", \$331,200,000, to remain available until expended, for activities by the Department of Defense pursuant to sections 108, 301, 302, and 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4518, 4531, 4532, and 4533): *Provided*, That such amounts shall be obligated and expended by the Secretary of Defense as if delegated the necessary authorities conferred by the Defense Production Act of 1950: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For an additional amount for "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army", \$18,594,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For an additional amount for "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy", \$20,825,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base, and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$13,825,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$7,000,000 shall be to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force", \$406,834,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-

Wide", \$194,125,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for "Office of the Inspector General", \$8,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, which shall be for operation and maintenance of the Office of the Inspector General, including the Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve, to carry out reviews of the activities of the Department of Defense to execute funds appropriated in this Act, including assistance provided to Ukraine: *Provided*, That the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees a briefing not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for "Intelligence Community Management Account", \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to \$1,000,000,000 only between the appropriations or funds made available in this title to the Department of Defense to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this subsection: *Provided further*, That such authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise provided by law and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8005 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023, or any similar provision in any subsequent Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for Fiscal Year 2024, except for monetary limitations concerning the amount of authority available.

(b) Upon the determination by the Director of National Intelligence that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Director may, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to \$250,000,000 only between the appropriations or funds made available in this title for the National Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That the Director of National Intelligence shall notify the Congress promptly of all transfers made pursuant to the authority in this subsection: *Provided further*, That such authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise provided by law and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section

8093 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023, or any similar provision in any subsequent Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for Fiscal Year 2024, except for monetary limitations concerning the amount of authority available.

SEC. 102. Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate on measures being taken to account for United States defense articles designated for Ukraine since the February 24, 2022, Russian invasion of Ukraine, particularly measures with regard to such articles that require enhanced end-use monitoring; measures to ensure that such articles reach their intended recipients and are used for their intended purposes; and any other measures to promote accountability for the use of such articles: *Provided*, That such report shall include a description of any occurrences of articles not reaching their intended recipients or used for their intended purposes and a description of any remedies taken: *Provided further*, That such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex.

SEC. 103. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter through fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall provide a written report to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate describing United States security assistance provided to Ukraine since the February 24, 2022, Russian invasion of Ukraine, including a comprehensive list of the defense articles and services provided to Ukraine and the associated authority and funding used to provide such articles and services: *Provided*, That such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex.

SEC. 104. For an additional amount for the Department of Defense, \$2,440,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, for transfer to military personnel accounts, operation and maintenance accounts, procurement accounts, research, development, test and evaluation accounts, and the Defense Working Capital Funds, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, only for U.S. operations, force protection, deterrence, and the replacement of combat expenditures in the United States Central Command region: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided under this section may be obligated or expended until 30 days after the Secretary of Defense provides to the congressional defense committees an execution plan: *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days prior to any transfer of funds, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon transfer, the funds shall be merged with and available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 105. For an additional amount for the Department of Defense, \$542,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, for transfer to operation and maintenance accounts, procurement accounts, and research, development, test and evaluation accounts, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, only for unfunded priorities of the United States Indo-Pacific Command for fiscal year 2024 (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code): *Provided*, That none of the funds provided under this section may be obligated or expended until 30 days after the Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), provides the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed execution plan for such funds: *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days prior to any transfer of funds, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon transfer, the funds shall be merged with and available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE II
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ENERGY PROGRAMS
SCIENCE

For an additional amount for “Science”, \$98,000,000, to remain available until expended, for acquisition, distribution, and equipment for development and production of medical, stable, and radioactive isotopes: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY
ADMINISTRATION

DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

For an additional amount for “Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation”, \$143,915,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Federal Salaries and Expenses”, \$5,540,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. (a) Of the unobligated balances from amounts previously appropriated under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy” in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58) that were made available for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, up to \$2,720,000,000 shall be available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for necessary

expenses to carry out the Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–31)): *Provided*, That if insufficient unobligated balances are available from such fiscal year 2022, 2023, and 2024 amounts to fund a total amount for such purpose of up to \$2,720,000,000, then up to \$800,000,000 from amounts previously appropriated under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy” in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58) that are made available for fiscal year 2025, may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for such purpose to meet such total amount: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section may be transferred to “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—American Energy Independence Fund” in either fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred by this section shall be subject to the same authorities and conditions as if such section were included in the Department of Energy title of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section to enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other similar transactions with public agencies and private organizations and persons, as authorized by section 646(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7256(a)), for such periods of time and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate, without regard to section 161(u) of Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201(u)): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from the sale or transfer of LEU and HALEU or from any other transaction in connection with the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section shall hereafter be credited to the “American Energy Independence Fund” as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That receipts may hereafter be collected from transactions entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(iii) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(iii)) and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from any transaction entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii)) shall hereafter be credited to the “American Energy Independence Fund” as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use funds repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section for a commitment only if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from that commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made and only to the extent that up-front obligation is recorded in full at that time: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation estab-

lishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

(b) Amounts may not be repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section until a law is enacted or administrative action is taken to prohibit or limit importation of LEU and HALEU from the Russian Federation or by a Russian entity into the United States.

(c) The Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–31)) is amended—

(1) in subsections (f)(1)(B)(i) and (h)(4)(B)(i) to read as follows:

“(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; and”;

(2) in subsection (j) to read as follows:

“(j) REASONABLE COMPENSATION.—In carrying out activities under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that any LEU and HALEU made available by the Secretary under 1 or more of the Programs is subject to reasonable compensation, taking into account the fair market value of the LEU or HALEU and the purposes of this section.”.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS,
RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Operations and Support”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, for necessary expenses related to the administration of nonprofit security grants: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, \$390,000,000, of which \$160,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2024, and \$230,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, for Nonprofit Security Grant Program under section 2009 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609a) for eligible nonprofit organizations to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism or other threats: *Provided*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall make programmatic adjustments as necessary to expedite the disbursement of, and provide flexibility in the use of, amounts made available under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of 6 U.S.C. 609a, and in addition to amounts available under 6 U.S.C. 609a(c)(2), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may permit a State to use up to two percent of a grant awarded under this heading in this Act to provide outreach and technical assistance to eligible nonprofit organizations to assist them with applying for Nonprofit Security Grant Program awards under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That such outreach and technical assistance should prioritize rural and underserved communities and nonprofit organizations that are traditionally underrepresented in the Program: *Provided further*, That such amount is

designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE IV

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Refugee and Entrant Assistance”, \$481,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for refugee and entrant assistance activities authorized by section 414 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act may be used for grants or contracts with qualified organizations, including nonprofit entities, to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services, including wraparound services, housing assistance, medical assistance, legal assistance, and case management assistance: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act may be used by the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (Director) to issue awards or supplement awards previously made by the Director: *Provided further*, That the Director, in carrying out section 412(c)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1552(c)(1)(A)) with amounts made available under this heading in this Act, may allocate such amounts among the States in a manner that accounts for the most current data available: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

SEC. 401. Section 401(a)(1)(A) of the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-128) is amended by striking “September 30, 2023” and inserting “September 30, 2024”: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE V

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$281,914,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That such funds may be obligated or expended for planning and design and military construction projects not otherwise authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE VI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Diplomatic Programs”, \$210,000,000, to remain available

until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and areas and countries impacted by the situations in Israel and Ukraine: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$100,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Worldwide Security Protection, including to respond to the situation in Israel and areas impacted by the situation in Israel: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$12,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

For an additional amount for “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended, to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service, as authorized: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, \$39,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and countries impacted by the situations in Israel and Ukraine: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$13,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “International Disaster Assistance”, \$5,655,000,000, to remain available until expended, to address humanitarian needs in response to the situations in Israel and Ukraine, including the provision of emergency food and shelter, and for assistance for other vulnerable populations and communities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For an additional amount for “Transition Initiatives”, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended, for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for “Economic Support Fund”, \$7,899,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$7,849,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine, which may include budget support and which may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for budget support pursuant to the preceding proviso may be made available for the reimbursement of pensions: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$50,000,000 shall be to prevent and respond to food insecurity: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

For an additional amount for “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, \$1,575,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for assistance and related programs for Ukraine and other countries identified in section 3 of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5801) and section 3(c) of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5402(c)): *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Migration and Refugee Assistance”, \$3,495,000,000, to remain available until expended, to address humanitarian needs and assist refugees in response to the situations in Israel and Ukraine, and for assistance for other vulnerable populations and communities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

For an additional amount for “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, \$375,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$300,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided further*, That funds made available in the preceding proviso may be made available to support the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and National Police of Ukraine, including units supporting or under the command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$75,000,000 shall be for assistance for the Middle East, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, including to enhance law enforcement capabilities, counter terrorism, combat narcotics trafficking, and meet other critical partner requirements: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM,
DEMINEING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, \$100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the prioritization of demining efforts and how such efforts will be coordinated with development activities: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for “Peacekeeping Operations”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for a United States contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai to enhance force protection capabilities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For an additional amount for “Foreign Military Financing Program”, \$7,100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$3,500,000,000 shall be for assistance for Israel and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the Government of Israel requests that funds be used for such purposes, grants made available for Israel under this heading in this Act shall, as agreed by the United States and Israel, be available for advanced weapons systems, of which up to \$769,300,000 may be available for the procurement in Israel of defense articles and defense services: *Provided further*, That the limitation in the preceding proviso may be exceeded, if agreed by the United States and Israel, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That any congressional notification requirement applicable to funds made available under this heading in this Act for Israel may be waived if the Secretary of State determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$2,000,000,000 shall be for assistance for the Indo-Pacific region and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$1,600,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act and unobligated balances of amounts made available under this heading in Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for fiscal year 2024 and prior fiscal years shall be available for the cost of loans and loan guarantees as authorized by section 2606 of the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division N of Public Law 117-103), subject to the terms and conditions provided in such section, or as otherwise authorized by law: *Provided further*, That loan guarantees made using amounts described in the preceding proviso for loans financed by the Federal Financing Bank may be provided notwithstanding any provision of law limiting the percentage of loan principal that

may be guaranteed: *Provided further*, That up to \$5,000,000 of funds made available under this heading in this Act, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, may be used by the Department of State for necessary expenses for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales, including management and oversight of such programs and activities: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS

MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

For an additional amount for “Contribution to the International Development Association”, \$250,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be made available for a contribution to the International Development Association Special Program to Enhance Crisis Response Window: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 601. During fiscal year 2024, up to \$250,000,000 of funds deposited in the Consular and Border Security Programs account in any fiscal year that are available for obligation may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by any Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Diplomatic Programs” (including for Worldwide Security Protection) and “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service” for emergency evacuations or to prevent or respond to security situations and related requirements: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law, and any such transfers are subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 602. During fiscal year 2024, section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(1)) shall be applied by substituting “\$7,800,000,000” for “\$100,000,000”.

SEC. 603. During fiscal year 2024, section 506(a)(2)(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(2)(B)) shall be applied by substituting “\$400,000,000” for “\$200,000,000” in the matter preceding clause (i), and by substituting “\$150,000,000” for “\$75,000,000” in clause (i).

SEC. 604. During fiscal year 2024, section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2348a(c)(2)) shall be applied by substituting “\$50,000,000” for “\$25,000,000”.

SEC. 605. Section 12001 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-287) is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (2) of subsection (a), by striking “armor” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting “defense articles that are in the inventory of the Department of Defense as of the date of transfer, are intended for use as reserve stocks for Israel, and are located in a stockpile for Israel as of the date of transfer”.

(2) In subsection (b), by striking “at least equal to the fair market value of the items transferred” and inserting “in an amount to be determined by the Secretary of Defense”.

(3) In subsection (c), by inserting before the comma in the first sentence the fol-

lowing: “, or as far in advance of such transfer as is practicable as determined by the President on a case-by-case basis during extraordinary circumstances impacting the national security of the United States”.

SEC. 606. For fiscal year 2024, section 514(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h(b)) shall not apply to defense articles to be set aside, earmarked, reserved, or intended for use as reserve stocks in stockpiles in the State of Israel.

SEC. 607. Unobligated balances from amounts appropriated in prior Acts under the heading “Multilateral Assistance—International Financial Institutions—Contributions to the International Monetary Fund Facilities and Trust Funds” shall be available to cover the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a), of loans made by the Secretary of the Treasury only to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust of the International Monetary Fund, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$21,000,000,000 in the aggregate, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to make such loans.

SEC. 608. Section 17(a)(6) of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act (22 U.S.C. 286e-2(a)(6)) is amended by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

SEC. 609. (a) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under such headings.

(b) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” to respond to the situation in Ukraine and in countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under the headings “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Corporate Capital Account”, “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Program Account”, “Export-Import Bank of the United States—Program Account”, and “Trade and Development Agency” for such purpose.

(c) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” for assistance for countries in the Middle East may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” for such purpose.

(d) The transfer authorities provided by this section are in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law, and are subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) Upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred pursuant to the authorities provided by this section are not necessary for such purposes, such amounts may be transferred back to such appropriations.

SEC. 610. Section 1705 of the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division M of Public Law 117-328) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for Ukraine.

SEC. 611. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this title in this Act may be made available for assistance for the Governments of the Russian Federation or Belarus, including entities owned or controlled by such Governments.

SEC. 612. (a) Section 2606 of the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division N of Public Law 117-103) is amended as follows:

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies” and inserting “, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, major non-NATO allies, and the Indo-Pacific region”; by striking “\$4,000,000,000” and inserting “\$8,000,000,000”; and by striking “, except that such rate may not be less than the prevailing interest rate on marketable Treasury securities of similar maturity”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “and NATO allies” and inserting “, NATO allies, major non-NATO allies, and the Indo-Pacific region”; by striking “\$4,000,000,000” and inserting “\$8,000,000,000”; and by inserting at the end of the second proviso “except for guarantees of loans by the Federal Financing Bank”.

(b) Funds made available for the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees for major non-NATO allies and the Indo-Pacific region pursuant to section 2606 of division N of Public Law 117-103, as amended by subsection (a), may only be made available from funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” and available balances from under such heading in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs: *Provided*, That such funds may only be made available if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees, not less than 15 days prior to the obligation of such funds, that such direct loan or loan guarantee is in the national security interest of the United States, is being provided in response to exigent circumstances, is addressing a mutually agreed upon emergency requirement of the recipient country, and the recipient country has a plan to repay such loan: *Provided further*, That not less than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with such committees on the implementation of this subsection.

(c) Amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 613. Funds appropriated under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” in this title in this Act may be made available as contributions, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 614. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for a contribution, grant, or other payment to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

SEC. 615. (a) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of State shall certify and report to the appropriate congressional committees not later than March 1, 2024, that—

(1) oversight policies, processes, and procedures have been established by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, and are in use to prevent the diversion, misuse, or destruction of assistance, including through international organizations, to Hamas and other terrorist and extremist entities in Gaza; and

(2) such policies, processes, and procedures have been developed in coordination with

other bilateral and multilateral donors and the Government of Israel, as appropriate.

(b) OVERSIGHT POLICY AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, concurrent with the submission of the certification required in subsection (a), a written description of the oversight policies, processes, and procedures for funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza, including specific actions to be taken should such assistance be diverted, misused, or destroyed, and the role of Israel in the oversight of such assistance.

(c) REQUIREMENT TO INFORM.—The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza have been diverted, misused, or destroyed, to include the type of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate.

(d) THIRD PARTY MONITORING.—Funds appropriated by this title shall be made available for third party monitoring of assistance for Gaza, including end use monitoring, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(e) OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.—

(1) DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Office of Inspector General” for the Department of State, \$7,000,000 shall be made available for the oversight and monitoring of assistance made available for Gaza by this title and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(2) UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Office of Inspector General” for USAID, \$3,000,000 shall be made available for the oversight and monitoring of assistance made available for Gaza by this title and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the initial obligation of funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza, and every 90 days thereafter until all such funds are expended, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the amount and purpose of such assistance provided during each respective quarter, including a description of the specific entity implementing such assistance.

(g) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2025, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and other heads of elements of the intelligence community that the Secretary considers relevant, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report assessing whether funds appropriated by this title and made available for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza have been diverted by Hamas or other terrorist and extremist entities in the West Bank and Gaza: *Provided*, That such report shall include details on the amount and how such funds were made available and used by such entities: *Provided further*, That such report may be submitted in classified form, if necessary.

(h) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act but prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this title for humanitarian assistance for Gaza, the Secretary of State and

USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the amount and anticipated uses of such funds.

SEC. 616. Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available in this title in this Act, the Secretary of State, USAID Administrator, and the Secretary of the Treasury, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations—

(1) spend plans, as defined in section 7034(s)(4) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (division K of Public Law 117-328), at the country, account, and program level, for funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “Transition Initiatives”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, “Foreign Military Financing Program”, and “Contribution to the International Development Association”: *Provided*, That plans submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall include for each program notified—(A) total funding made available for such program, by account and fiscal year; (B) funding that remains unobligated for such program from prior year base or supplemental appropriations; (C) funding that is obligated but unexpended for such program; and (D) funding committed, but not yet notified for such program; and

(2) operating plans, as defined in section 7062 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (division K of Public Law 117-328), for funds appropriated by this title under the headings “Diplomatic Programs”, “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, and “Operating Expenses”.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 701. Each amount appropriated or made available by this Act is in addition to amounts otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year involved.

SEC. 702. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 703. Unless otherwise provided for by this Act, the additional amounts appropriated by this Act to appropriations accounts shall be available under the authorities and conditions applicable to such appropriations accounts for fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 704. Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a strategy regarding United States support for Ukraine against aggression by the Russian Federation: *Provided*, That such strategy shall be multi-year, establish specific and achievable objectives, define and prioritize United States national security interests, and include the metrics to be used to measure progress in achieving such objectives: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall include an estimate, on a fiscal year-by-fiscal year basis, of the resources required by the United States to achieve such objectives, including to help hasten Ukrainian victory against Russia’s invasion forces in a manner most favorable to United States interests and objectives, and a description of the national security implications for the United

States if those objectives are not met: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall describe how each specific aspect of U.S. assistance, including defense articles and U.S. foreign assistance, is intended at the tactical, operational, and strategic level to help Ukraine end the conflict as a democratic, independent, and sovereign country capable of deterring and defending its territory against future aggression: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall include a classified independent assessment from the Commander, U.S. European Command, describing any specific defense articles and services not yet provided to Ukraine that would result in meaningful battlefield gains in alignment with the strategy: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall include a classified assessment from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the provision of specific defense articles and services provided to Ukraine does not pose significant risk to the defense capabilities of the United States military: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment in coordination with the Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation provide an assessment of the executability and a production schedule for any specific defense articles recommended by the Commander, U.S. European Command that require procurement: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall include information on support to the Government of the Russian Federation from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the People's Republic of China, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, related to the Russian campaign in Ukraine, and its impact on such strategy: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall be updated not less than quarterly, as appropriate, until September 30, 2025, and such updates shall be submitted to such committees: *Provided further*, That unless otherwise specified by this section, such strategy shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 705. (a) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall brief the appropriate congressional committees, in classified form, if necessary, on the status and welfare of hostages being held in Gaza.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means the following:

(1) The Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) The Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(3) The Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(4) The Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 706. Funds appropriated by this Act for foreign assistance (including foreign military sales), for the Department of State, for broadcasting subject to supervision of United States Agency for Global Media, and for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for the purposes of section 10 of Public Law 91-672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 707. Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall

be available (or repurposed or rescinded, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

SEC. 708. Any amount appropriated by this Act, designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and subsequently so designated by the President, and transferred pursuant to transfer authorities provided by this Act shall retain such designation.

This division may be cited as the "National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024".

DIVISION B—FEND OFF FENTANYL ACT

SEC. 3001. SHORT TITLES.

This division may be cited as the "Fentanyl Eradication and Narcotics Deterrence Off Fentanyl" or the "FEND Off Fentanyl Act".

SEC. 3002. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the proliferation of fentanyl is causing an unprecedented surge in overdose deaths in the United States, fracturing families and communities, and necessitating a comprehensive policy response to combat its lethal flow and to mitigate the drug's devastating consequences;

(2) the trafficking of fentanyl into the United States is a national security threat that has killed hundreds of thousands of United States citizens;

(3) transnational criminal organizations, including cartels primarily based in Mexico, are the main purveyors of fentanyl into the United States and must be held accountable;

(4) precursor chemicals sourced from the People's Republic of China are—

(A) shipped from the People's Republic of China by legitimate and illegitimate means;

(B) transformed through various synthetic processes to produce different forms of fentanyl; and

(C) crucial to the production of illicit fentanyl by transnational criminal organizations, contributing to the ongoing opioid crisis;

(5) the United States Government must remain vigilant to address all new forms of fentanyl precursors and drugs used in combination with fentanyl, such as Xylazine, which attribute to overdose deaths of people in the United States;

(6) to increase the cost of fentanyl trafficking, the United States Government should work collaboratively across agencies and should surge analytic capability to impose sanctions and other remedies with respect to transnational criminal organizations (including cartels), including foreign nationals who facilitate the trade in illicit fentanyl and its precursors from the People's Republic of China; and

(7) the Department of the Treasury should focus on fentanyl trafficking and its facilitators as one of the top national security priorities for the Department.

SEC. 3003. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term "foreign person"—

(A) means—

(i) any citizen or national of a foreign country; or

(ii) any entity not organized under the laws of the United States or a jurisdiction within the United States; and

(B) does not include the government of a foreign country.

(3) KNOWINGLY.—The term "knowingly", with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(4) TRAFFICKING.—The term "trafficking", with respect to fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, or other related opioids, has the meaning given the term "opioid trafficking" in section 7203(8) of the Fentanyl Sanctions Act (21 U.S.C. 2302(8)).

(5) TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION.—The term "transnational criminal organization" includes—

(A) any organization designated as a significant transnational criminal organization under part 590 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations;

(B) any of the organizations known as—

(i) the Sinaloa Cartel;

(ii) the Jalisco New Generation Cartel;

(iii) the Gulf Cartel;

(iv) the Los Zetas Cartel;

(v) the Juarez Cartel;

(vi) the Tijuana Cartel;

(vii) the Beltran-Leyva Cartel; or

(viii) La Familia Michoacana; or

(C) any successor organization to an organization described in subparagraph (B) or as otherwise determined by the President.

(6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term "United States person" means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; or

(C) any person in the United States.

TITLE I—SANCTIONS MATTERS

Subtitle A—Sanctions in Response to National Emergency Relating to Fentanyl Trafficking

SEC. 3101. FINDING; POLICY.

(a) FINDING.—Congress finds that international trafficking of fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, or other related opioids constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States, and is a national emergency.

(b) POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to apply economic and other financial sanctions to those who engage in the international trafficking of fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, or other related opioids to protect the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States.

SEC. 3102. USE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES; REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this subtitle.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on actions taken by the executive branch pursuant to this subtitle and any national emergency declared with respect to the trafficking of fentanyl and trade in other illicit drugs, including—

(A) the issuance of any new or revised regulations, policies, or guidance;

(B) the imposition of sanctions;

(C) the collection of relevant information from outside parties;

(D) the issuance or closure of general licenses, specific licenses, and statements of licensing policy by the Office of Foreign Assets Control;

(E) a description of any pending enforcement cases; and

(F) the implementation of mitigation procedures.

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include the matters required under subparagraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F) of such paragraph in a classified annex.

SEC. 3103. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FENTANYL TRAFFICKING BY TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any foreign person the President determines—

(1) is knowingly involved in the significant trafficking of fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, or other related opioids, including such trafficking by a transnational criminal organization; or

(2) otherwise is knowingly involved in significant activities of a transnational criminal organization relating to the trafficking of fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, or other related opioids.

(b) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The President, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), may block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of a foreign person described in subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(c) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on actions taken by the executive branch with respect to the foreign persons identified under subsection (a).

SEC. 3104. PENALTIES; WAIVERS; EXCEPTIONS.

(a) **PENALTIES.**—Any person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this subtitle or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this subtitle shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(b) **NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this subtitle with respect to a foreign person if the President determines that such waiver is in the national security interest of the United States.

(c) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**—This subtitle shall not apply with respect to activities subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(2) **EXCEPTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.**—Sanctions under this subtitle shall not apply with respect to an alien if admitting or paroling the alien into the United States is necessary—

(A) to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success on June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or

other applicable international obligations of the United States; or

(B) to carry out or assist law enforcement activity of the United States.

(3) **HUMANITARIAN EXEMPTION.**—The President may not impose sanctions under this subtitle with respect to any person for conducting or facilitating a transaction for the sale of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, or medical devices or for the provision of humanitarian assistance.

SEC. 3105. TREATMENT OF FORFEITED PROPERTY OF TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) **TRANSFER OF FORFEITED PROPERTY TO FORFEITURE FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Any covered forfeited property shall be deposited into the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund established under section 9705 of title 31, United States Code, or the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund established under section 524(c) of title 28, United States Code.

(2) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on any deposits made under paragraph (1) during the 180-day period preceding submission of the report.

(3) **COVERED FORFEITED PROPERTY DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term “covered forfeited property” means property—

(A) forfeited to the United States under chapter 46 or section 1963 of title 18, United States Code; and

(B) that belonged to or was possessed by an individual affiliated with or connected to a transnational criminal organization subject to sanctions under—

(i) this subtitle;

(ii) the Fentanyl Sanctions Act (21 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.); or

(iii) Executive Order 14059 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); relating to imposing sanctions on foreign persons involved in the global illicit drug trade).

(b) **BLOCKED ASSETS UNDER TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE ACT OF 2002.**—Nothing in this subtitle may be construed to affect the treatment of blocked assets of a terrorist party described in section 201(a) of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (28 U.S.C. 1610 note).

Subtitle B—Other Matters

SEC. 3111. TEN-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR VIOLATIONS OF SANCTIONS.

(a) **INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY ECONOMIC POWERS ACT.**—Section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.**—

“(1) **TIME FOR COMMENCING PROCEEDINGS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An action, suit, or proceeding for the enforcement of any civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture, pecuniary or otherwise, under this section shall not be entertained unless commenced within 10 years after the latest date of the violation upon which the civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture is based.

“(B) **COMMENCEMENT.**—For purposes of this paragraph, the commencement of an action, suit, or proceeding includes the issuance of a pre-penalty notice or finding of violation.

“(2) **TIME FOR INDICTMENT.**—No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense under subsection (c) unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within 10 years after the latest date of the violation upon which the indictment or information is based.”.

(b) **TRADING WITH THE ENEMY ACT.**—Section 16 of the Trading with the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. 4315) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.**—

“(1) **TIME FOR COMMENCING PROCEEDINGS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An action, suit, or proceeding for the enforcement of any civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture, pecuniary or otherwise, under this section shall not be entertained unless commenced within 10 years after the latest date of the violation upon which the civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture is based.

“(B) **COMMENCEMENT.**—For purposes of this paragraph, the commencement of an action, suit, or proceeding includes the issuance of a pre-penalty notice or finding of violation.

“(2) **TIME FOR INDICTMENT.**—No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense under subsection (a) unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within 10 years after the latest date of the violation upon which the indictment or information is based.”.

SEC. 3112. CLASSIFIED REPORT AND BRIEFING ON STAFFING OF OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a classified report and briefing on the staffing of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, disaggregated by staffing dedicated to each sanctions program and each country or issue.

SEC. 3113. REPORT ON DRUG TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND USE OF VESSELS WITH MISLABELED CARGO.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a classified report and briefing on efforts to target drug transportation routes and modalities, including an assessment of the prevalence of false cargo labeling and shipment of precursor chemicals without accurate tracking of the customers purchasing the chemicals.

SEC. 3114. REPORT ON ACTIONS OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS INVOLVED IN FENTANYL SUPPLY CHAIN.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a classified report and briefing on actions taken by the Government of the People's Republic of China with respect to persons involved in the shipment of fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, fentanyl precursors, precursors for fentanyl analogues, and equipment for the manufacturing of fentanyl and fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills.

TITLE II—ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING MATTERS

SEC. 3201. DESIGNATION OF ILLICIT FENTANYL TRANSACTIONS OF SANCTIONED PERSONS AS OF PRIMARY MONEY LAUNDERING CONCERN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subtitle A of the Fentanyl Sanctions Act (21 U.S.C. 2311 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 7213 the following:

“SEC. 7213A. DESIGNATION OF TRANSACTIONS OF SANCTIONED PERSONS AS OF PRIMARY MONEY LAUNDERING CONCERN.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary of the Treasury determines that reasonable grounds exist for concluding that 1 or more financial institutions operating outside of the United States, 1 or more classes of transactions within, or involving, a jurisdiction outside of the United States, or 1 or more types of accounts within, or involving, a jurisdiction outside of the United States, is of

primary money laundering concern in connection with illicit opioid trafficking, the Secretary of the Treasury may, by order, regulation, or otherwise as permitted by law—

“(1) require domestic financial institutions and domestic financial agencies to take 1 or more of the special measures provided for in section 9714(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 31 U.S.C. 5318A note); or

“(2) prohibit, or impose conditions upon, certain transmittals of funds (to be defined by the Secretary) by any domestic financial institution or domestic financial agency, if such transmittal of funds involves any such institution, class of transaction, or type of accounts.

“(b) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—In any judicial review of a finding of the existence of a primary money laundering concern, or of the requirement for 1 or more special measures with respect to a primary money laundering concern made under this section, if the designation or imposition, or both, were based on classified information (as defined in section 1(a) of the Classified Information Procedures Act (18 U.S.C. App.)), such information may be submitted by the Secretary to the reviewing court ex parte and in camera. This subsection does not confer or imply any right to judicial review of any finding made or any requirement imposed under this section.

“(c) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The exemptions from, and prohibitions on, search and disclosure referred to in section 9714(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 31 U.S.C. 5318A note) shall apply to any report or record of report filed pursuant to a requirement imposed under subsection (a). For purposes of section 552 of title 5, United States Code, this subsection shall be considered a statute described in subsection (b)(3)(B) of such section.

“(d) PENALTIES.—The penalties referred to in section 9714(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 31 U.S.C. 5318A note) shall apply to violations of any order, regulation, special measure, or other requirement imposed under subsection (a), in the same manner and to the same extent as described in such section 9714(d).

“(e) INJUNCTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may bring a civil action to enjoin a violation of any order, regulation, special measure, or other requirement imposed under subsection (a) in the same manner and to the same extent as described in section 9714(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 31 U.S.C. 5318A note).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7213 the following:

“Sec. 7213A. Designation of transactions of sanctioned persons as of primary money laundering concern.”

SEC. 3202. TREATMENT OF TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS IN SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS REPORTS OF THE FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK.

(a) FILING INSTRUCTIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network shall issue guidance or instructions to United States financial institutions for filing reports on suspicious transactions required under section 1010.320 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, related to suspected fentanyl trafficking by transnational criminal organizations.

(b) PRIORITIZATION OF REPORTS RELATING TO FENTANYL TRAFFICKING OR TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Director shall prioritize research into reports described in subsection (a) that indicate a connection to trafficking of fentanyl or related synthetic opioids or financing of suspected transnational criminal organizations.

SEC. 3203. REPORT ON TRADE-BASED MONEY LAUNDERING IN TRADE WITH MEXICO, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND BURMA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the first update to the national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance submitted to Congress after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall include a report on trade-based money laundering originating in Mexico or the People's Republic of China and involving Burma.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance” means the national strategy for combating the financing of terrorism and related forms of illicit finance required under section 261 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44; 131 Stat. 934), as amended by section 6506 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81; 135 Stat. 2428).

TITLE III—EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS

SEC. 3301. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The authority or a requirement to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under this division shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(b) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

TITLE IV—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 3401. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act;

(2) for purposes of an allocation to the Committee on Appropriations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; and

(3) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

SA 1389. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr.

MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ SAFEGUARDS AND ACCOUNTABILITY WITH RESPECT TO TRANSFERRED DEFENSE ARTICLES AND DEFENSE SERVICES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT.—Any defense articles or defense services provided pursuant to this Act shall be used in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflict, and United States law.

(2) COMPLIANCE WITH PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES THAT RESTRICT UNITED STATES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with section 620I(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2378-1(a)), prior to the disbursement of any defense articles or defense services provided pursuant to this Act, the President shall obtain assurances that the recipient country will cooperate fully with any United States efforts and United States-supported international efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to civilians in an area of conflict where United States defense articles or defense services are being used by the recipient.

(B) WAIVER.—The President may waive the requirement under subparagraph (A) if the President determines that it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so and, consistent with section 620I(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2378-1(c)), notifies the appropriate congressional committees of the determination and the reasons for making the determination.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the obligation or expenditure of any funds appropriated by this Act for air defense systems or other systems that the President determines will be used for strictly defensive purposes.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a separate report for each recipient country of defense articles or defense services provided pursuant to this Act on the use by such country, on or after January 1, 2023, of defense articles and defense services provided or funded in whole or in part by the United States.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) A description of measures taken to account for defense articles or defense services designated for the recipient, particularly measures with regard to such articles or services that require enhanced end-use monitoring.

(B) A description of measures to ensure that such defense articles or defense services reach their intended recipient and are used

for their intended purposes, and any other measures to promote accountability for the use of such articles or services.

(C) An assessment of whether such defense articles or defense services have been used in a manner consistent with international law, including international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflict, United States law, and the standards contained in National Security Memorandum/NSM-18, dated February 23, 2023, entitled “United States Conventional Arms Transfer Policy”.

(D) A description of the procedures and mechanisms used to make the assessment described in subparagraph (C).

(E) An assessment of—

(i) the extent to which the use of such defense articles or defense services is consistent with United States practices and mechanisms for minimizing civilian casualties, including practices and mechanisms developed pursuant to the Defense Department’s Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan (CHMR-AP); and

(ii) the extent to which civilian harm mitigation procedures and mechanisms have been incorporated in the recipient’s security assistance program pursuant to CHMR-AP Objective 9.

(F) A description of the procedures and mechanisms used to make the assessment described under subparagraph (E).

(G) A description of any occurrences of such defense articles or defense services not reaching their intended recipient or being used for their intended purposes, and a description of any remedies taken.

(H) An assessment of whether the recipient of such defense articles or defense services has been cooperating fully with United States efforts and United States-supported international efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to civilians in an area of conflict where United States defense articles or defense services are being used by the recipient.

(3) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a separate classified annex.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) DEFENSE ARTICLE; DEFENSE SERVICE.—The terms “defense article” and “defense service” have the meanings given those terms in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794).

SA 1390. Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 6, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 56, line 13, and insert the following:

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, \$29,830,780,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, to respond to the situations in Ukraine and Taiwan and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$13,772,460,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative shall be available to the Secretary of Defense under the same terms and conditions as are provided for under this heading in the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division M of Public Law 117-328), and shall be available notwithstanding section 8135 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023 (division C of Public Law 117-328) or any similar provision in any other Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That up to \$13,414,432,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, may be transferred to accounts under the headings “Operation and Maintenance”, “Procurement”, and “Revolving and Management Funds” for replacement, through new procurement or repair of existing unserviceable equipment, of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, and for reimbursement for defense services of the Department of Defense and military education and training, provided to or identified for provision to the Government of Ukraine or to foreign countries that have provided support to Ukraine at the request of the United States: *Provided further*, That up to \$1,900,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, may be transferred to accounts under the headings “Operation and Maintenance”, “Procurement”, and “Revolving and Management Funds” for replacement, through new procurement or repair of existing unserviceable equipment, of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, and for reimbursement for defense services of the Department of Defense and military education and training, provided to or identified for provision to the Government of Taiwan or to foreign countries that have provided support to Taiwan at the request of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds transferred pursuant to the preceding two provisos shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which the funds are transferred: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of such transfers not less than 15 days before any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back and merged with this appropriation: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Missile Procurement, Army”, \$2,742,757,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Procurement of Ammunition, Army”, \$5,612,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$5,612,900,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Army”, \$308,991,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Weapons Procurement, Navy”, \$706,976,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, \$2,155,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, funds shall be available as follows:

Columbia Class Submarine (AP), \$1,955,000,000; and

Virginia Class Submarine (AP), \$200,000,000: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Navy”, \$319,570,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base, and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$26,000,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$293,570,000 shall be to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Marine Corps”, \$212,443,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Missile Procurement, Air Force”, \$366,001,000, to remain

available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Air Force”, \$2,808,678,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for other expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Defense-Wide”, \$4,046,780,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$4,000,000,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome and David’s Sling defense systems to counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided further*, That funds in the preceding provisos shall be transferred pursuant to an exchange of letters and are in addition to funds provided pursuant to the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement, as amended: *Provided further*, That nothing under this heading in this Act shall be construed to apply to amounts made available in prior appropriations Acts for the procurement of the Iron Dome and David’s Sling defense systems or for the procurement of the Iron Beam defense system: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$46,780,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

For an additional amount for “Defense Production Act Purchases”, \$331,200,000, to remain available until expended, for activities by the Department of Defense pursuant to sections 108, 301, 302, and 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4518, 4531, 4532, and 4533): *Provided*, That such amounts shall be obligated and expended by the Secretary of Defense as if delegated the necessary authorities conferred by the Defense Production Act of 1950: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army”, \$18,594,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy”,

\$20,825,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base, and for related expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$13,825,000 shall be to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$7,000,000 shall be to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force”, \$406,834,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide”, \$194,125,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of the Inspector General”, \$8,000,000, to remain available until December 31, 2024, which shall be for operation and maintenance of the Office of the Inspector General, including the Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve, to carry out reviews of the activities of the Department of Defense to execute funds appropriated in this Act, including assistance provided to Ukraine: *Provided*, That the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees a briefing not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for “Intelligence Community Management Account”, \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Direc-

tor of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to \$1,000,000,000 only between the appropriations or funds made available in this title to the Department of Defense to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this subsection: *Provided further*, That such authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise provided by law and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8005 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023, or any similar provision in any subsequent Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for Fiscal Year 2024, except for monetary limitations concerning the amount of authority available.

(b) Upon the determination by the Director of National Intelligence that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Director may, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to \$250,000,000 only between the appropriations or funds made available in this title for the National Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That the Director of National Intelligence shall notify the Congress promptly of all transfers made pursuant to the authority in this subsection: *Provided further*, That such authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise provided by law and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8093 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023, or any similar provision in any subsequent Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for Fiscal Year 2024, except for monetary limitations concerning the amount of authority available.

SEC. 102. Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate on measures being taken to account for United States defense articles designated for Ukraine since the February 24, 2022, Russian invasion of Ukraine, particularly measures with regard to such articles that require enhanced end-use monitoring; measures to ensure that such articles reach their intended recipients and are used for their intended purposes; and any other measures to promote accountability for the use of such articles: *Provided*, That such report shall include a description of any occurrences of articles not reaching their intended recipients or used for their intended purposes and a description of any remedies taken: *Provided further*, That such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex.

SEC. 103. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter through fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall provide a written report to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Foreign Relations of the Senate describing United States security assistance provided to Ukraine since the February 24, 2022, Russian invasion of Ukraine, including a comprehensive list of the defense articles and services provided to Ukraine and the associated authority and funding used to provide such articles and services: *Provided*, That such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex.

SEC. 104. For an additional amount for the Department of Defense, \$2,440,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, for transfer to military personnel accounts, operation and maintenance accounts, procurement accounts, research, development, test and evaluation accounts, and the Defense Working Capital Funds, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, only for U.S. operations, force protection, deterrence, and the replacement of combat expenditures in the United States Central Command region: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided under this section may be obligated or expended until 30 days after the Secretary of Defense provides to the congressional defense committees an execution plan: *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days prior to any transfer of funds, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon transfer, the funds shall be merged with and available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 105. For an additional amount for the Department of Defense, \$542,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, for transfer to operation and maintenance accounts, procurement accounts, and research, development, test and evaluation accounts, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, only for unfunded priorities of the United States Indo-Pacific Command for fiscal year 2024 (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code): *Provided*, That none of the funds provided under this section may be obligated or expended until 30 days after the Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), provides the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed execution plan for such funds: *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days prior to any transfer of funds, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon transfer, the funds shall be merged with and available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any transfer authority provided herein is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ENERGY PROGRAMS

SCIENCE

For an additional amount for “Science”, \$98,000,000, to remain available until expended, for acquisition, distribution, and equipment for development and production of medical, stable, and radioactive isotopes: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

For an additional amount for “Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation”, \$143,915,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Federal Salaries and Expenses”, \$5,540,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. (a) Of the unobligated balances from amounts previously appropriated under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy” in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58) that were made available for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, up to \$2,720,000,000 shall be available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for necessary expenses to carry out the Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–31)): *Provided*, That if insufficient unobligated balances are available from such fiscal year 2022, 2023, and 2024 amounts to fund a total amount for such purpose of up to \$2,720,000,000, then up to \$800,000,000 from amounts previously appropriated under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy” in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58) that are made available for fiscal year 2025, may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for such purpose to meet such total amount: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section may be transferred to “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—American Energy Independence Fund” in either fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred by this section shall be subject to the same authorities and conditions as if such section were included in the Department of Energy title of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section to enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other similar transactions with public agencies and private organizations and persons, as authorized by section 646(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7256(a)), for such periods of time and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate, without regard to section 161(u) of Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201(u)): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from the sale or transfer of LEU and HALEU or from any other transaction in connection with the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section shall hereafter be credited to the “American Energy Independence Fund” as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for

the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That receipts may hereafter be collected from transactions entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(iii) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(iii)) and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from any transaction entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii)) shall hereafter be credited to the “American Energy Independence Fund” as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use funds repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section for a commitment only if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from that commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made and only to the extent that up-front obligation is recorded in full at that time: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

(b) Amounts may not be repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section until a law is enacted or administrative action is taken to prohibit or limit importation of LEU and HALEU from the Russian Federation or by a Russian entity into the United States.

(c) The Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–31)) is amended—

(1) in subsections (f)(1)(B)(i) and (h)(4)(B)(i) to read as follows:

“(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; and”;

(2) in subsection (j) to read as follows:

“(j) REASONABLE COMPENSATION.—In carrying out activities under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that any LEU and HALEU made available by the Secretary under 1 or more of the Programs is subject to reasonable compensation, taking into account the fair market value of the LEU or HALEU and the purposes of this section.”.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Operations and Support”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, for necessary expenses related to the administration of nonprofit security grants: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement

pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, \$390,000,000, of which \$160,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2024, and \$230,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, for Nonprofit Security Grant Program under section 2009 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609a) for eligible nonprofit organizations to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism or other threats: *Provided*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall make programmatic adjustments as necessary to expedite the disbursement of, and provide flexibility in the use of, amounts made available under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of 6 U.S.C. 609a, and in addition to amounts available under 6 U.S.C. 609a(c)(2), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may permit a State to use up to two percent of a grant awarded under this heading in this Act to provide outreach and technical assistance to eligible nonprofit organizations to assist them with applying for Nonprofit Security Grant Program awards under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That such outreach and technical assistance should prioritize rural and underserved communities and nonprofit organizations that are traditionally underrepresented in the Program: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE IV

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Refugee and Entrant Assistance”, \$481,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for refugee and entrant assistance activities authorized by section 414 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act may be used for grants or contracts with qualified organizations, including nonprofit entities, to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services, including wraparound services, housing assistance, medical assistance, legal assistance, and case management assistance: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act may be used by the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (Director) to issue awards or supplement awards previously made by the Director: *Provided further*, That the Director, in carrying out section 412(c)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1552(c)(1)(A)) with amounts made available under this heading in this Act, may allocate such amounts among the States in a manner that accounts for the most current data available: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

SEC. 401. Section 401(a)(1)(A) of the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-128) is amended by striking “September 30, 2023” and inserting

“September 30, 2024”: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE V

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$281,914,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, to support improvements to the submarine industrial base and for related expenses: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That such funds may be obligated or expended for planning and design and military construction projects not otherwise authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE VI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIPLOMATIC PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Diplomatic Programs”, \$210,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and areas and countries impacted by the situations in Israel and Ukraine: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$100,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Worldwide Security Protection, including to respond to the situation in Israel and areas impacted by the situation in Israel: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$12,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

For an additional amount for “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended, to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service, as authorized: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, \$39,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to respond to the situations in Israel and Ukraine and coun-

tries impacted by the situations in Israel and Ukraine: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$13,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “International Disaster Assistance”, \$5,655,000,000, to remain available until expended, to address humanitarian needs in response to the situations in Israel and Ukraine, including the provision of emergency food and shelter, and for assistance for other vulnerable populations and communities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For an additional amount for “Transition Initiatives”, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended, for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for “Economic Support Fund”, \$7,899,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$7,849,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine, which may include budget support and which may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for budget support pursuant to the preceding proviso may be made available for the reimbursement of pensions: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$50,000,000 shall be to prevent and respond to food insecurity: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

For an additional amount for “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, \$1,575,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for assistance and related programs for Ukraine and other countries identified in section 3 of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5801) and section 3(c) of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5402(c)): *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Migration and Refugee Assistance”, \$3,495,000,000, to remain available until expended, to address

humanitarian needs and assist refugees in response to the situations in Israel and Ukraine, and for assistance for other vulnerable populations and communities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

For an additional amount for “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, \$375,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$300,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided further*, That funds made available in the preceding proviso may be made available to support the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and National Police of Ukraine, including units supporting or under the command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$75,000,000 shall be for assistance for the Middle East, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, including to enhance law enforcement capabilities, counter terrorism, combat narcotics trafficking, and meet other critical partner requirements: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINEING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, \$100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the prioritization of demining efforts and how such efforts will be coordinated with development activities: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for “Peacekeeping Operations”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for a United States contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai to enhance force protection capabilities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For an additional amount for “Foreign Military Financing Program”, \$3,600,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$2,000,000,000 shall be for assistance for the Indo-Pacific region and for related expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$1,600,000,000 shall be for assistance for Ukraine and countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided further*,

That amounts made available under this heading in this Act and unobligated balances of amounts made available under this heading in Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for fiscal year 2024 and prior fiscal years shall be available for the cost of loans and loan guarantees as authorized by section 2606 of the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division N of Public Law 117–103), subject to the terms and conditions provided in such section, or as otherwise authorized by law: *Provided further*, That loan guarantees made using amounts described in the preceding proviso for loans financed by the Federal Financing Bank may be provided notwithstanding any provision of law limiting the percentage of loan principal that may be guaranteed: *Provided further*, That up to \$5,000,000 of funds made available under this heading in this Act, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, may be used by the Department of State for necessary expenses for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales, including management and oversight of such programs and activities: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

For an additional amount for “Contribution to the International Development Association”, \$250,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be made available for a contribution to the International Development Association Special Program to Enhance Crisis Response Window: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 601. During fiscal year 2024, up to \$250,000,000 of funds deposited in the Consular and Border Security Programs account in any fiscal year that are available for obligation may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by any Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Diplomatic Programs” (including for Worldwide Security Protection) and “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service” for emergency evacuations or to prevent or respond to security situations and related requirements: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law, and any such transfers are subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 602. During fiscal year 2024, section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(1)) shall be applied by substituting “\$7,800,000,000” for “\$100,000,000”.

SEC. 603. During fiscal year 2024, section 506(a)(2)(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(2)(B)) shall be applied by substituting “\$400,000,000” for “\$200,000,000” in the matter preceding clause (i), and by substituting “\$150,000,000” for “\$75,000,000” in clause (i).

SEC. 604. During fiscal year 2024, section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2348a(c)(2)) shall be applied by substituting “\$50,000,000” for “\$25,000,000”.

SEC. 605. Unobligated balances from amounts appropriated in prior Acts under the heading “Multilateral Assistance—International Financial Institutions—Contributions to the International Monetary Fund Facilities and Trust Funds” shall be available to cover the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a), of loans made by the Secretary of the Treasury only to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust of the International Monetary Fund, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$21,000,000,000 in the aggregate, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to make such loans.

SEC. 606. Section 17(a)(6) of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act (22 U.S.C. 286e–2(a)(6)) is amended by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

SEC. 607. (a) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under such headings.

(b) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” to respond to the situation in Ukraine and in countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under the headings “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Corporate Capital Account”, “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Program Account”, “Export-Import Bank of the United States—Program Account”, and “Trade and Development Agency” for such purpose.

(c) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” for assistance for countries in the Middle East may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” for such purpose.

(d) The transfer authorities provided by this section are in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law, and are subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) Upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred pursuant to the authorities provided by this section are not necessary for such purposes, such amounts may be transferred back to such appropriations.

SEC. 608. Section 1705 of the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division M of Public Law 117–328) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for Ukraine.

SEC. 609. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this title in this Act may be made available for assistance for the Governments of the Russian Federation or Belarus, including entities owned or controlled by such Governments.

SEC. 610. (a) Section 2606 of the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division N of Public Law 117–103) is amended as follows:

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies” and inserting “, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, major non-NATO allies, and the Indo-Pacific region”; by striking “\$4,000,000,000” and inserting

“\$8,000,000,000”; and by striking “, except that such rate may not be less than the prevailing interest rate on marketable Treasury securities of similar maturity”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “and NATO allies” and inserting “, NATO allies, major non-NATO allies, and the Indo-Pacific region”; by striking “\$4,000,000,000” and inserting “\$8,000,000,000”; and by inserting at the end of the second proviso “except for guarantees of loans by the Federal Financing Bank”.

(b) Funds made available for the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees for major non-NATO allies and the Indo-Pacific region pursuant to section 2606 of division N of Public Law 117–103, as amended by subsection (a), may only be made available from funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” and available balances from under such heading in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs: *Provided*, That such funds may only be made available if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees, not less than 15 days prior to the obligation of such funds, that such direct loan or loan guarantee is in the national security interest of the United States, is being provided in response to exigent circumstances, is addressing a mutually agreed upon emergency requirement of the recipient country, and the recipient country has a plan to repay such loan: *Provided further*, That not less than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with such committees on the implementation of this subsection.

(c) Amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 611. Funds appropriated under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” in this title in this Act may be made available as contributions, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 612. (a) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of State shall certify and report to the appropriate congressional committees not later than March 1, 2024, that—

(1) oversight policies, processes, and procedures have been established by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, and are in use to prevent the diversion, misuse, or destruction of assistance, including through international organizations, to Hamas and other terrorist and extremist entities in Gaza; and

(2) such policies, processes, and procedures have been developed in coordination with other bilateral and multilateral donors and the Government of Israel, as appropriate.

(b) OVERSIGHT POLICY AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, concurrent with the submission of the certification required in subsection (a), a written description of the oversight policies, processes, and procedures for funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza, including specific actions to be taken should such assistance be diverted, misused, or destroyed, and the role of Israel in the oversight of such assistance.

(c) REQUIREMENT TO INFORM.—The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall promptly inform the appropriate con-

gressional committees of each instance in which funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza have been diverted, misused, or destroyed, to include the type of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate.

(d) THIRD PARTY MONITORING.—Funds appropriated by this title shall be made available for third party monitoring of assistance for Gaza, including end use monitoring, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(e) OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.—

(1) DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Office of Inspector General” for the Department of State, \$7,000,000 shall be made available for the oversight and monitoring of assistance made available for Gaza by this title and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(2) UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Office of Inspector General” for USAID, \$3,000,000 shall be made available for the oversight and monitoring of assistance made available for Gaza by this title and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the initial obligation of funds appropriated by this title that are made available for assistance for Gaza, and every 90 days thereafter until all such funds are expended, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the amount and purpose of such assistance provided during each respective quarter, including a description of the specific entity implementing such assistance.

(g) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2025, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and other heads of elements of the intelligence community that the Secretary considers relevant, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report assessing whether funds appropriated by this title and made available for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza have been diverted by Hamas or other terrorist and extremist entities in the West Bank and Gaza: *Provided*, That such report shall include details on the amount and how such funds were made available and used by such entities: *Provided further*, That such report may be submitted in classified form, if necessary.

(h) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act but prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this title for humanitarian assistance for Gaza, the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the amount and anticipated uses of such funds.

SEC. 613. Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available in this title in this Act, the Secretary of State, USAID Administrator, and the Secretary of the Treasury, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations—

(1) spend plans, as defined in section 7034(s)(4) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (division K of Public Law 117–328), at the country, account, and program level, for funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “Transition Initiatives”, “Assistance

for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, “Foreign Military Financing Program”, and “Contribution to the International Development Association”: *Provided*, That plans submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall include for each program notified—(A) total funding made available for such program, by account and fiscal year; (B) funding that remains unobligated for such program from prior year base or supplemental appropriations; (C) funding that is obligated but unexpended for such program; and (D) funding committed, but not yet notified for such program; and

(2) operating plans, as defined in section 7062 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (division K of Public Law 117–328), for funds appropriated by this title under the headings “Diplomatic Programs”, “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, and “Operating Expenses”.

SA 1391. Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 6, line 25, strike “\$34,230,780,000” and insert “\$29,830,780,000”.

On page 7, line 2, strike “Israel, Ukraine, and Taiwan” and insert “in Ukraine and Taiwan”.

Beginning on page 7, strike line 16 and all that follows through page 8, line 4 and insert “partment of Defense: *Provided further*, That up to”.

On page 9, line 4, strike “three provisos” and insert “two provisos”.

On page 10, line 7, strike “\$6,414,300,000” and insert “\$5,612,900,000”.

On page 10, strike lines 8 through 15 and insert “until September 30, 2026, to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses: *Provided*,”.

On page 13, line 20, strike “\$5,246,780,000” and insert “\$4,046,780,000”.

On page 14, strike lines 2 through 7, and insert “counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided further*, That funds in the”.

On page 41, line 23, strike “\$7,100,000,000” and insert “\$3,600,000,000”.

Beginning on page 41, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 42, line 17, and insert “until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under”.

Beginning on page 45, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 46, line 19.

On page 51, strike lines 10 through 16.

SA 1392. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care

program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 51, strike lines 10 through 16.

RECESS UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, I move the Senate stand in recess until 12 noon on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to recess.

The motion was agreed to.

Thereupon, the Senate at 7:17 p.m. recessed until Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

ERNEST GONZALEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE PHILIP R. MARTINEZ, DECEASED.

LEON SCHYDLOWER, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE FRANK MONTALVO, RETIRED.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on February 7, 2024 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

ERNEST GONZALEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE FRANK MONTALVO, RETIRED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 10, 2024.

LEON SCHYDLOWER, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE PHILIP R. MARTINEZ, DECEASED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 10, 2024.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2024 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress (House and Senate) and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and engage in discussion regarding mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany from Friday, June 28–Sunday, July 7, 2024. During this exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States from Saturday, September 14–Sunday, September 22, 2024. They will attend similar meetings in Washington organized by the members of the U.S. delegation.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation shall consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

Please note that there is a significant time commitment aspect for those selected for the program. In addition, U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the meetings and programs for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter

in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024. Please submit the application and any questions to interparliamentary.affairs@mail.house.gov.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING ELSIE MCPHERSON-BROWN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the groundbreaking service of a Livingston County woman who never even planned to live in the area, much less to make history there. Fortunately, life had its own plans for Elsie McPherson-Brown, and the community is so much better for it.

Livingston County sits at the crossroads of several major highways, and when Elsie McPherson-Brown, was driving one of them to visit friends, she took a wrong turn and ended up in the northern community of Hartland. Elsie liked what she saw on that unexpected outing, and after further investigation, including meeting with the superintendent and school principals, she convinced her husband to relocate to Hartland from Detroit with their two elementary school-aged boys.

It's worth noting that Livingston County was, and remains to this day, an overwhelmingly white community, but Elsie and her family were undeterred. From the beginning of their time in Hartland, Elsie dove into community service, volunteering in her kids' classrooms, organizing fundraisers, chairing Teacher Appreciation Day events, and serving on the PTO. In 2003, Elsie took her service to a new and historic level, when she successfully ran for the Board of Education of Hartland Consolidated Schools, becoming the first African-American woman and only the second African-American in modern history to be elected to public office in Livingston County.

Her story is not without its challenges, particularly when it comes to race relations. She often shares how a grocery store manager insisted her personal check was fraudulent because he refused to believe that a Black woman lived in Livingston County as the address stated. Or the local police officers who questioned her younger son and refused to believe he was simply heading home for the same reason. But Elsie chose to rise above, and set her focus and her intentions on the things she loved about the community and the commonalities she shared with her friends and neighbors.

Supported by the voters, Elsie served ten years on the school board and fulfilled her goal of having a voice in shaping the edu-

cation of the next generation. She was known for her calm demeanor, her colorful outfits, and the many hats she wore about town, perhaps representative of the different hats she wore in life: wife, mother, advocate, and trailblazer. While she has stepped down from public office, today she continues her life of quiet service to the community in her work with the Livingston County Sheriffs Office.

Elsie McPherson-Brown may have stumbled upon Hartland accidentally, but it's no accident that she changed the course of Hartland's history. Her story deserves to be told, uplifted, and forever preserved.

IMPEACHING ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, FOR HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, this extreme MAGA Republican stunt to impeach Secretary Mayorkas is baseless. The Democratic staff of the Committee on Homeland Security thoroughly documented the many failures of fact and law in the articles of impeachment contained in H. Res. 863. I include in the Record the key findings and introduction of the Democratic staff report. The full report can be found online at <https://democratshomeland.house.gov/download/homelanddemimpeachmentreportfinal>.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
MINORITY STAFF REPORT,
January 29, 2024.

KEY FINDINGS

Republicans are abusing Congress' impeachment power. Impeachment is an extraordinary remedy under the United States Constitution. It is not a tool for policy or political differences, and constitutional scholars and even some Republicans agree. The Framers never intended for the legislative branch to wield its impeachment power to extort policy changes from the executive branch, and they certainly did not intend for the impeachment power to be used to placate extreme factions of Congress.

The Republicans' impeachment scheme is a sham. Republicans' baseless investigation into Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas is a politically motivated sham to appease extreme MAGA Members and partisan special interest groups. This impeachment has never been about Secretary Mayorkas' record, as the effort began not long after he was confirmed. In their rush to reach a predetermined outcome, House Republicans have failed to provide the most basic due process considerations to Secretary Mayorkas.

Secretary Mayorkas is upholding the law and honoring the public trust. Secretary Mayorkas has not violated the law, let alone committed "high Crimes and Misdeemeanors"—the Constitutional standard for

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

impeachment. Secretary Mayorkas is carrying out President Biden's policies in good faith within resource constraints. He is following the law and has been responsive to Congress and the American people.

Republicans are sabotaging Secretary Mayorkas' efforts to secure the border. The Biden administration—including Secretary Mayorkas—is working to solve the challenges at our border in an orderly, humane, and lawful way. Secretary Mayorkas has implemented new initiatives to stop dangerous drugs from entering our communities; cracked down on smugglers and cartels; and increased personnel, technology, and infrastructure at our borders. Unfortunately, Republicans are intentionally sabotaging these efforts by voting against necessary funding because they prefer a political wedge issue to policy solutions.

Republicans are perpetuating challenges at the border to help re-elect Donald Trump. Republicans are using Secretary Mayorkas as a scapegoat for the longstanding challenges at our southern border. They are playing the political blame-game to deflect attention from their failure to take meaningful action on border security and immigration legislation and provide necessary border security funding. Republicans should stop this sham effort and instead work with Democrats to enact border and immigration legislation and provide the Department of Homeland Security the funding it needs to carry out its mission.

I. INTRODUCTION

Since its formation in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Committee on Homeland Security (the Committee) has distinguished itself through dedication to serious legislative and oversight work under the leadership of chairmen from both parties. The frantic, partisan rush to consider House Resolution 863, Impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors, represents a betrayal of that hard-earned legacy.

Sadly, in the 118th Congress, the willingness of Republicans to waste their credibility on political stunts comes as no surprise. MAGA Republicans have wasted their opportunity to make progress on immigration and border security policy. The challenges at our borders are real—but Republicans have failed even to engage in a conversation about bipartisan legislation to address them. They have failed to provide necessary funding requested by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). They have failed to provide resources for officers and agents at the border, failed to fund the immigration judges necessary to handle the influx of asylum claims, and failed to condemn the cruel and deceptive acts of State and local Republicans who look to score cheap political points by treating migrants as less than human.

To distract from this abject failure and appease the most extreme elements of the Republican Conference, Republican leadership launched a baseless impeachment investigation into Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas. This impeachment is without precedent, without basis in the law, and a total waste of time. Among its many fatal flaws, this wholly partisan impeachment effort:

Fails to articulate any charge that might constitute "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors."

Fails to provide evidence to support the charges, such as they are.

Fails to name the proper target for impeachment in a policy dispute with the executive branch, if indeed a policy dispute is ever grounds for impeachment.

Fails to provide due process to Secretary Mayorkas.

Fails to address any of the real challenges at our Nation's borders.

Perhaps this shoddy effort is what Democrats should have expected months ago, when Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia insisted to her leadership that "[s]omebody needs to be impeached," without specifying any particular target or reason for the impeachment.

REPUBLICAN ABUSE OF POWER

Instead of working to find commonsense, bipartisan solutions to address immigration reform and border security—which are necessarily and inextricably intertwined—Republicans have, from the very earliest days of Secretary Mayorkas' time in office, turned to character assassination. Although their inability and unwillingness to enact new policy is to blame, Republicans are angry that the Biden administration has implemented its own border security and immigration policies to enforce the law commensurate with the resources provided by Congress. Secretary Mayorkas is carrying out those policies, as is his duty.

This report documents the failed basis for this sham impeachment effort and provides the facts behind the Biden administration's efforts to address the challenges at the southern border in an orderly and humane way, consistent with the law.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAMON SALINAS, JR.

HON. TONY GONZALES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the admirable life of Ramon Salinas, Jr., who unexpectedly passed away on February 1st of this year.

Mr. Salinas dedicated his life to public service. In total, he served over twenty years in law enforcement—both as a Customs Officer for the Department of Treasury and as a Customs and Border Protection Officer under the Department of Homeland Security. Over the span of his distinguished career, Ramon set himself apart with his outstanding work ethic and will forever serve as a role model for those who follow in his footsteps.

Mr. Salinas was also a beloved member of his community, and his dedication to serving others went far beyond his time in law enforcement. For many years, he was a devoted soccer coach and role model for the youth of Eagle Pass, Texas.

Those who know Ramon Salinas, Jr. can speak to his patriotism, compassion, and devotion to faith. Though he will be dearly missed, Mr. Salinas' legacy will live on for years to come.

He is survived by his wife Francelia, his daughter Evelyn, his son Ramon III, his granddaughter Elena Joy, his siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

My condolences and prayers are with the Salinas family during this difficult time.

CONGRATULATIONS PRIME MINISTER VIKTOR ORBAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as co-founder and co-chair of the Euro-

pean Union Caucus I am grateful for the European Union last week voting to provide an additional \$54 billion in aid to Ukraine. The EU has now provided more aid than any other ally and countries like Bulgaria and Poland have contributed more per capita GDP than even the United States.

I appreciate Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary supporting the funding. This fulfills my lifelong affection for the courageous people of Hungary. As a child I was inspired by Hungarian Freedom Fighters valiantly standing in front of the Soviet Tanks in Budapest. Hungary should always be cherished as the first Soviet satellite to stand up to totalitarian Moscow which was cited by Senator Barry Goldwater in his historic book *Why Not Victory?* for liberation of Central and Eastern Europe. The Goldwater Campaign featured actor Ronald Reagan in his historic speech "A Tune For Choosing" leading to his presidency with Pope John Paul, II, and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher achieving Victory.

Viktor Orban is valiantly acting in the tradition of Hungarian Freedom Fighters who defied the Communist Hammer and Sickle symbol of mass-murdering totalitarianism. War criminal Putin has shamefully oppressed the talented people of Russia and has shamefully called for the resurrection of the evil Soviet Empire. I was shocked in June this year, to see the Communist Hammer and Sickle is still cruelly in place over the Russian Embassy in Berlin, Germany. It was so disgusting to see adulation of a symbol that in September 1939 was allied with the Nazi Swastika to conduct mass murder of 70,000 Polish patriots in the partition of Poland.

European Council President Charles Michel is correct "This locks in steadfast, long term, predictable funding for Ukraine." It was encouraging the correlation with Prime Minister Orban with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and French President Emmanuel Macron.

In America there is bi-partisan majority support for Ukraine understanding war criminal Putin will not stop with his invasion of Ukraine with direct threats on NATO Members Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. President Donald Trump tried to deter the murderous invasion of Ukraine by providing Javelin missiles to President Volodymyr Zelensky to stop Putin tanks, courageously placing American troops for the first time in Poland and stopping the Nord Stream Two Pipeline financing of war criminal Putin oppressing Russian citizens as Putin contrived Western European dependency on his oil. House Armed Services Committee Chairman MIKE ROGERS, House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman MICHAEL MCCAUL, and Intelligence Committee Chairman MIKE TURNER are stalwarts for victory in Ukraine. They are backed up with Democrat Ranking Members ADAM SMITH, GREG MEEKS, and JIM HIMES.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING MIKE GARLAND

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a basketball coaching legend who

helped lead the Michigan State University Spartans men's basketball team to 19 NCAA tournaments, 10 Big Ten Championships, seven Final Fours, and a National Championship. But as impressive as those statistics are, former MSU Assistant Coach Mike Garland quite literally came back from the dead and is now using his second chance at life to pay this incredible gift forward.

As much as Mike Garland loved coaching basketball, and as many great things as his teams accomplished on the court, he was content with his decision to retire from MSU in June of 2022, and looking forward to spending more time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. Not long after, however, he went into cardiac arrest while driving his car. Fortunately two good Samaritans were driving by at the time, saw Garland's car go off the road and into a tree, called 911, and performed CPR until paramedics and police arrived. In total, 13 people worked on Garland for an agonizing 18 minutes to restart his heart.

It turned out the electrical failure in Garland's heart was the result of a birth defect, one that required open heart surgery to fix. Three months later, Garland was back up and running—quite literally—on the treadmill. Not long after that he honored all those who helped save his life with an emotional public thank you at MSU's Breslin Center, home to many of his great coaching moments.

Today, the Breslin Center is also home court for his new passion: a foundation he launched called Champions of the Heart. Through this non-profit, Garland works to inform the Spartan community and others on how to save lives during episodes of cardiac arrest.

Attendees at these free trainings learn how to perform CPR, how to recognize sudden cardiac arrest, and how to use an Automatic External Defibrillator.

Mike Garland is a man who has lived two lives, both defined by statistics. In the first, his focus was on wins, losses, and free throw percentages. His second life, however, is summed up in a single stark numerical reality: only one person in ten survives a cardiac arrest. He has done much to defy the odds and change the course of history for himself and others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend the first portion of the vote series on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, and the vote series on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, due to an unexpected medical emergency and corresponding recovery time in the hospital. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 36, YEA on Roll Call No. 39, and NAY on Roll Call No. 40.

HONORING INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR JOSE ALIAGA

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Independence Township Supervisor Jose Aliaga. Mr. Aliaga, who embodies the American Dream, is an immigrant from Peru who faced many challenges coming to the United States including the biggest challenges of not knowing anyone or being able to speak English.

After immigrating to the U.S., Jose attended the University of Michigan, where he earned his bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in social science. Moreover, Mr. Aliaga worked tirelessly to achieve a law degree from the Universidad Las Americas in Peru. After his time in school, Mr. Aliaga connected Latin American and U.S. companies and started his own business, Aliaga Development and Consulting, LLC. His work eventually earned him an invitation to the White House and recognition from the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Aliaga is active in business and politics and, from time to time, he is known for engaging at universities in Peru. He has been featured on Fox News and Univision as a TV commentator. Mr. Aliaga treasures his local community where he partakes in local initiatives and committees. He is also a government reform activist, seeking a positive community impact.

Independence Township has seen many positive changes since Mr. Aliaga took office, including refurbishing and revitalizing parks and implementing new standards for township employees. A new pilot program was recently established that extended township hall hours, making it more convenient for residents to pass through outside their standard work hours, yet another welcomed change for the community. Mr. Aliaga is also planning to rebrand the township to attract new businesses and residents to the area.

Mr. Aliaga is an ambitious member of the Independence Township community. He is the Township Supervisor, but also sits on five other committees and boards in the township government. These include the Downtown Development Authority, the Television Video Center Administrative Board, Parks, Recreation & Seniors Advisory Committee, Safety Path Advisory Committee, and the Sashabaw Corridor Improvement Authority.

Mr. Aliaga embodies public service. He works in his community for his community. His motto is "I live to serve." It is an honor to recognize Jose Aliaga and all his accomplishments.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING ORRIN AND LUVINA WILSON

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to two of the most beloved residents to

ever call the St. Johns, Michigan, community home: Orrin and Luvina Wilson. Settling in Clinton County post-Civil War, the Wilsons were a "power couple" before such a term existed, but it was never about seeking power for themselves. Rather, the Wilsons lived their lives in quiet but devoted and groundbreaking service to their nation and to their neighbors, and forever changed the face of St. Johns.

Orrin was just 16 years old in 1864 when he enlisted in Michigan's all-Black regiment, the 102nd United States Colored Infantry. Company K, out of Kalamazoo. He served until the war's end, and returned to Michigan where he met and married his bride. The two would soon settle in St. Johns, where they lived out the next 60 years of their lives.

In addition to his military service, Orrin was a trailblazer in so many ways. First, he took up the trade of barbering and owned his own shop for nearly 50 years, serving a mostly white clientele out of the old Steel Hotel in downtown St. Johns. He was also a founding member of the local chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, a national union of Civil War veterans, and served as its post commander for a time. Not only was he the only Black member of the St. Johns Charles Grisson Post of the GAR, it's believed he was the only Black man in the state to hold such a leadership position outside of the all-Black posts in cities like Detroit.

Luvina was a trailblazer in her own right, serving as president of the local chapter of the Women's Relief Corps, the auxiliary organization to the Grand Army of the Republic. The WRC not only supported the mission to aid Union veterans, but also assisted former Army nurses and promoted patriotism through education. And just like her husband, Luvina is believed to be the only Black woman in the state to have led an all-white post.

Orrin and Luvina raised two sons together: George and Arthur, who continued the family barbering trade. The family was active in the St. Johns United Methodist Church, where Orrin served as a trustee and treasurer for three decades. They were married for 58 years, and linked in their common goal of creating a better, more just community and nation. And united they also were in death, leaving this world just one day apart in late December of 1928. The two were buried together in the veterans' section of Mt. Rest Cemetery, with flags flown at half-mast and a large funeral procession going past the family home on South Clinton Avenue.

May their life story and memory be a blessing and inspiration to all of us.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CLARENCE GREEN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Clarence "Ogden" Green of Runaway Bay, Texas, who peacefully passed away on the morning of January 1, 2024. Mr. Green was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Green was born on December 23, 1929, in Foster, Oklahoma, to Coleman and Florence Green. His family later moved to Fort

Worth, Texas, where he attended Trimble Technical High School. In 1965, Mr. Green graduated from Multnomah University in Portland, Oregon. After graduation, he worked in the construction industry and as a real estate broker until his retirement.

Throughout his entire life, Mr. Green was passionate about a variety of sports, fishing, and hunting. He lived an active lifestyle and enjoyed playing football, basketball, baseball, golf, and bowling.

Mr. Green was a devoted man of faith and regularly attended The Bay Church in Runaway Bay. He was a gifted craftsman, skillfully carving beautiful wooden birds by hand, and was also known for his landscaping prowess which helped keep his lawn pristine. He enjoyed spending time with his family, including his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capital in recognition of Mr. Green's wonderful and adventurous life. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to be present for votes on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 34, and YEA on Roll Call No. 35.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING THE CANADY FAMILY

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a legendary Lansing family that has broken barriers across generations, and continues to make history today.

The story begins in 1927 when the family matriarch, Ms. Hortense Canady was born in Chicago. While she didn't grow up in Michigan, she came to Michigan State University to pursue graduate studies after attending Fisk University, where she met her husband, Clinton. In the Lansing area, Hortense and Clinton, a World War II veteran and member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, settled, put down roots, and left an indelible mark on the community.

Clinton became a well-known and well-loved dentist, while Hortense put her passion for education and civil rights into action, becoming the first African American elected to the Lansing School District Board of Education in 1968. Four years later, she and several other board members were recalled for advocating for desegregation, but Hortense did not let that deter her from working toward her core belief that everyone deserves access to quality education.

She sat on the state's Women's Commission, served as the first executive director of the Lansing Community College Foundation,

and helped found a debutante club in Lansing to fill in a void for young Black women who, at the time, were not permitted to share in this tradition.

Hortense founded the Lansing alumnae chapter of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, and served as its national president from 1983 to 1988. She was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 2002 and was named as one of Ebony magazine's Most Influential People. Hortense Canady died in 2010 at age 83.

Not only was Hortense Canady impressive in her own right, but her children have continued to blaze their own trails. Her daughter, Alexa Canady, is the first African American woman in the nation to become a neurosurgeon, and served as chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Michigan from 1987 until her retirement in June 2001. She devoted her brilliant mind and her numerous talents to the healing and welfare of thousands of young patients over the course of her career, and, like her mother, is an inductee in the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She was also named a Michigander of the Year by the Detroit News in 2002.

All three of Hortense Canady's sons became attorneys, including the Honorable Judge Clinton Canady III. Before ascending to the bench, Canady practiced law for 37 years. He was a founder of the Lansing Black Lawyers' Association, director of the Ingham County Bar Association, a commissioner for the Lansing Board of Water and Light, a member of the NAACP, and served on the board of the Lansing Symphony Association, Central Michigan Legal Aid, and many other organizations. Elected to the Ingham County Circuit Court in 2010, Judge Canady served through his retirement in 2022, but returned on assignment to help address the backlog of cases from the pandemic.

He and his wife, Rita, have two children who are continuing the Canady tradition of service, one as an administrative law judge in California, and the other with the United States Department of State.

The Canady family is part of the very fabric of the Lansing community, a fabric stitched with their incredible work ethic, commitment to breaking new ground, and to clearing a path for others to follow.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PASTOR GREGORY CHRISTOPHER

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend Pastor Gregory Christopher and to recognize his decades of service to Tacoma's Shiloh Baptist Church and the greater Pierce County community.

Pastor Christopher was called to the Ministry in 1989 and studied under the Pastoral leadership of Pastor Lonnie Brown at The Body of Christ Christian Church in Tacoma, Washington. He began his tenure with Shiloh Baptist Church in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood in 1993, where he is the Senior Pastor, and will be retiring this February 2024.

In his 23 years on the pulpit, Pastor Christopher has created a legacy that puts him on

hallowed ground. His dedication to his community and his faith places him in the same breath as the legendary Black faith leaders of Tacoma, including the late Rev. Earnest Brazill, who was Pastor Christopher's mentor at Shiloh Baptist Church. In addition to his congregational leadership, Pastor Christopher also serves on the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance, and is an At-Large Board Member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Pastor Christopher has been a fierce and tireless leader outside the Church as well. He is a compassionate advocate for folks experiencing homelessness, a champion for racial representation, and a catalyst for policy solutions to improve the lives of African Americans in Tacoma and throughout the greater Puget Sound region. His work has been demonstrated through his service as the President of the Tacoma branch of the NAACP, his membership in the Tacoma Pierce County Black Collective, and his past service on the board of the Tacoma Urban League.

Pastor Christopher has been at the center of efforts to promote racial justice and religious social services for decades, working to boost inclusivity through expanding partnerships with marginalized communities within Pierce County. His leadership and his mission to empower the community have shaped our community for the better.

Mr. Speaker, beyond detailing all his many accomplishments, I'd also like to express my gratitude for the partner that Pastor Christopher has been to my office and to me personally. I'm proud to call Pastor Christopher a friend and have appreciated his sage advice throughout my career. While we will miss him at Shiloh, I am happy that he will have more time with his family, including his wife, Evelyn, who also is a leader in the community, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Pastor Gregory Christopher in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE BERKOSKI FAMILY'S SUCCESS AT THE 108TH PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Debra Martin Berkoski and her husband, Steven Berkoski, for their combined successes at the 108th Pennsylvania Farm Show.

The week contains a multitude of meanings for her, including her birthday. Debra began attending the Farm Show at 10 years old, showing sheep. This year, as she turned 57 years old, she and Steven won a combined 89 ribbons out of the 100 competitions they entered, 22 of them being first place prizes.

Most notably, Debra took home first prize in Pennsylvania's Greatest Whoopie Pie contest with her pumpkin whoopie pie. Anyone from our Commonwealth knows that whoopies pies are essential desserts at any Pennsylvanian event.

Throughout the week, the Berkoskis commuted over 500 miles between the Harrisburg Expo Center and their home. In order to

produce all of their entries, they used a total of 360 eggs, 60 pounds of sugar, 55 pounds of flour, and 25 pounds of butter.

Mr. Speaker, it is the dedication of people like the Berkoskis that honor Pennsylvania's rich agricultural traditions. In addition to being active participants in the Farm Show, the Berkoskis operate a 200-year-old family farm in Conestoga.

I want to congratulate the Berkoskis on their success at this year's Farm Show and thank them for their tireless dedication to honoring our community's rich agricultural heritage and sharing their skills and passion with the thousands of individuals who attend the Farm Show each year.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING REV. LILLIAN ARCHIBALD

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a woman who defied not only the odds but her own family's wishes to become a pioneer in the pulpit at a landmark Black church in Livingston County, Michigan.

Though her father was a devout Baptist preacher in the early part of the 20th century, Lillian Archibald was taught from a young age that ministry was strictly for men. The fourth of five children, Lillian's father was clear in his message to his daughters: love the Lord, but find another calling for work.

Skeptical but obedient, Lillian attended a business college in her hometown of Memphis and spent time as a missionary before starting a family of her own. Tragically, the youngest of her four children was killed in 1977 in a crash between a car and a train. Despite her profound grief, Lillian took solace in her unshakeable faith, and made the decision that it was time to answer the call that had been placed upon her heart.

Lillian enrolled at Payne Theological Seminary, and entered the ministry at age 50. She spent some time as an itinerant elder before being ordained as a full minister in 1985. And of course, she broke the news to her father, who she says grew quiet before finally giving her his blessing.

She brought that blessing to Michigan, first serving six years assisting the pastor at a church in Jackson, before being assigned to pastor St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in Brighton—the only African American church in predominantly white Livingston County—in 1990.

With her melodic voice and charismatic style, Reverend Archibald is credited with breathing new life and hope into the congregation, where she stayed for four years. During her tenure, the church grew in size and in spirit, and began reaching out to the community and joining with other churches with a sense of common purpose and passion.

Though her time in Livingston County was brief, her impact was profound. She received numerous recognitions for her commitment to the community, including her work with victims of domestic violence at the Women's Resource Center in Howell, and her efforts to shelter the unhoused through Habitat for Humanity.

Perhaps one of her greatest gifts was the mentorship she offered to other women contemplating the call to ministry. Reverend Archibald is still warmly remembered today by many of them as a compassionate guide and a listening ear. Her courageous ministry and her golden voice still guide the work of St. James AME Church.

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the ongoing challenges that too many families in America face coping with poverty and income inequality. I thank my dear friend, Congressman DESAULNIER, for hosing this Special Order hour, and for his tireless work on these issues.

In the richest country in the world, poverty is a policy choice. In early 2023, the poverty rate in California rose to 13.2 percent, and the child poverty rate to 13.8 percent.

You cannot disentangle poverty and inequality from systemic racism. Latinos remained disproportionately poor. Latinos comprise about half of poor Californians, but only around 40 percent of all Californians. Additionally, about 13.6 percent of African Americans and 11.5 percent of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders lived in poverty in California at the beginning of 2023 compared to 10.2 percent of white residents. That is why I reintroduced legislation calling for the establishment of the first U.S. Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation. This Commission will examine the effects of slavery, institutional racism, and discrimination against people of color, and how our history impacts laws and policies today.

But while poverty has a disproportionate impact on people of color, poverty afflicts millions of people in America of all racial and ethnic backgrounds. That is why I have worked with the Poor People's Campaign to introduce a resolution calling for a Third Reconstruction to fully address poverty from the bottom up. A Third Reconstruction would prioritize the needs and demands of the 140 million people in America who are poor or one emergency away from economic desperation, with policies focused on healthcare, welfare, water, public education, and housing.

Across the country, rents and home prices continue to rise much faster than income, exacerbating housing instability during an affordable housing supply crisis. A staggering 78 percent of extremely low income renters in California are severely cost burdened, meaning they spend more than half of their income on housing and utilities. This is unacceptable when we have the power and tools to eliminate poverty entirely.

Access to safe and affordable housing, regardless of income, is a human right. I am proud to sponsor the DEPOSIT Act, which would provide security deposit assistance to low-income renters.

As Chair of the House Democratic Caucus Poverty Task Force, I won't stop fighting until we pass comprehensive legislation to eradicate poverty, economic inequality, and racial

injustice. There is a strong correlation between U.S. poverty reduction initiatives and declining poverty rates. We must work to ensure that the Child Tax Credit is restored to American Rescue Plan levels, which cut child poverty in half.

We must ensure the House remains focused on combating poverty in all forms and creating economic opportunity for all Americans. Together, we can work to reduce disparities and secure justice for those struggling to put food on the table.

REMEMBERING THE 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF AZERBAIJAN'S BLACK JANUARY

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the 34th anniversary of Azerbaijan's Black January. During this horrific January 1990 event, Soviet troops marched into Baku, Azerbaijan to suppress the freedom and the sovereignty of the Azeri people. This condemnable action by the Soviet Union during Black January contributed to the deaths of 147 civilians and the injuring of 744 more.

The desires of the Azeri people were fair and reasonable, but to Soviet leaders, these desires were unacceptable and had to be crushed. Despite the savage Soviet opposition on Black January, the Azeri people remained steadfast in their strong dedication to freedom and self-determination. This dedication contributed to Azerbaijan ultimately gaining its independence in 1991.

Black January is a striking reminder of communism's horrors. The death and despair caused by the Soviet Union is shocking example of this destructive ideology's violent response to dissent and free thought. Such a reminder is important not only for America, but the whole world. We can never let the odious forces of communism prevail against the honorable ideals of liberty and individualism.

Today, the Republic of Azerbaijan is a key ally of the United States, Azerbaijan's economic and security partnership advances American interests in Eurasia. It is in the best interest of the United States and Azerbaijan to maintain close bilateral ties with each other. Because of this, I hope the friendship between our two countries will flourish for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in somber remembrance of Black January and the lives tragically lost during this sadening event. I also urge my colleagues to join me in strong condemnation of the evils of communism, as well as in recognition of the stalwart friendship between the United States and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING DR. SAMUEL EDWARD HOLLOWAY

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a man who was a trailblazer in athletics and

education, and used his talents to break barriers and change the lives of generations of young people. Dr. Samuel Edward Holloway lived to serve others: his nation, his community, and his family. It is fitting that as we mark Black History Month, we shine a light on his place in the history of Michigan's 7th District and the many doors he opened for others to pass through.

But before he was Dr. Holloway, he was simply "Sam," a young man who came to Michigan with his father, who had left the deep South as part of the Great Migration. After spending his childhood in various parts of the Midwest, Sam and his family settled in Michigan in the 1940s, where he would eventually join the Ann Arbor High School class of 1951. Sam's athletic abilities were evident from a young age, as he was crowned state champion in his wrestling class during his high school years. Also clear was his desire to use his life for the greater good, as he enlisted in the United States Army upon graduation, and was honorably discharged in 1953.

It was then that Sam began embarking on what would become his life's calling: public education. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Eastern Michigan University, during which time he also began his teaching career. And so it was, at the height of the civil rights movement in 1963, when Samuel Edward Holloway became the first Black faculty member in the history of South Lyon Public Schools. During his tenure there, he is also credited with becoming the first Black person to serve as head wrestling coach for a high school team in the state of Michigan.

Eventually Holloway earned his PhD in education, and went on to serve in numerous districts, including Ypsilanti Public Schools and Romulus Public Schools. In the late 1970s he became a building administrator at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor, a full circle moment for the man who had graduated from that very district. He held that post until his retirement in 1990, a retirement that he and his wife Janet enjoyed to the fullest. Still an athlete at heart and in practice, Holloway competed each year in the Arizona Senior Olympics, and rode his motorcycle across the United States and Europe.

Dr. Samuel Edward Holloway passed away in 2022, leaving behind his devoted wife, his four children, a large and loving extended family, and an incredible legacy. Dr. Holloway didn't set out to be a pioneer; he simply wanted to do the things he loved in the service of others. I now ask that the People's House reflect his groundbreaking contributions and the gratitude of the institutions forever changed by his presence.

**HONORING MR. HOWARD MAUTNER
ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's Third Congressional District, we wish Mr. Howard Alan Mautner a very happy 100th birthday.

Howard was born in Rockford, Illinois, on April 28, 1924. When Howard was eight years

old, his family moved to Madison, Wisconsin. He lived there until he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in October 1942 at age 18.

Howard was inducted into the military at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and went to recruit training at what is now known as Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. He was then assigned to radio school in what is now Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, Illinois. He learned Morse code and radio training. After schooling, he served several months at Marshall Army Airfield, adjacent to Fort Riley, Kansas. He then reported into an overseas duty staging area at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina. In September 1943, Howard headed to Naval Base Norfolk, Virginia, where he boarded a Liberty ship for the port of Casablanca (Morocco).

Howard served in Naples, Italy between September 1943 and December 1944 before heading onto Venice, Italy from December 1944 to May 1945. By August 1945, the war was over, but Howard was sent to Vienna, Austria, as part of the occupational force. Howard was especially grateful to have visited Vienna, as that was his father's birthplace in the late 1880s. In December 1945, he was transported back to America aboard the USS *Randolph*, landing at Fort Dix in New Jersey, where he was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant.

For the last several decades, Howard has lived in Ocala, Florida, and has been a treasured member of the Marion County veterans' community. We are honored to wish him a happy 100th birthday and to thank him for his dutiful service to our Nation. Congratulations to Howard on this milestone. We are elated to celebrate with him.

HONORING CINDY MACHADO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cindy Machado upon her retirement from the Marin Humane Society (Marin Humane) after 40 years of extraordinary public service.

A longtime Northern California resident, Cindy has been fighting for the rights and welfare of animals with Marin Humane since 1984. At that time, the animal service officer role was dominated by men, but Cindy's knowledge of animal science, equines and livestock made her an effective enforcer of animal control and cruelty laws. She was quickly promoted to Field Services Sergeant in 1985 and assumed the role of Animal Services Director in 1996, a position she held until her retirement.

Cindy's impeccable leadership was critical to establishing Marin Humane as a highly respected organization locally, and at the regional, national, and international levels. She was instrumental in creating the Animal Law Enforcement Academy, a program hosted by Marin Humane through Santa Rosa Junior College, in partnership with the California Animal Welfare Association (Cal Animals). She also served the Academy as an instructor on issues including animal cruelty investigations, animal hoarding, and inspections, and man-

aged an annual Advanced Academy program for almost two decades.

From pet shops and cock fighting rings to circuses and amusement parks, Cindy has worked tirelessly to end animal cruelty. She has led investigations, testified in court, and participated in many legislative hearings. Her influence has been far reaching as an advocate and educator, leading trainings and workshops on behalf of Marin Humane across the world, including at the Brazilian Animal Welfare Congress in 2000, in Taiwan with the Humane Society of the United States in 2001, and in Mexico with Compassion Without Borders in 2005.

Cindy has also been an animal advocate in preparation and response to natural disasters. She co-founded the Marin Horse Council's Equine Evacuation Committee in 2006, represented Marin Humane with Marin's Emergency Operations Center since 1996, and spearheaded a Marin County Veterinary Medical Association and Marin Humane joint committee to educate the community on impacts on animals. When a disaster hit, Cindy was always quick to act. She deployed to Houston during Hurricane Katrina to assist with animal evacuations, the 2009 Cosco Busan oil spill in San Francisco Bay, and nearly every wildfire in the region.

Among her numerous commitments, Cindy is a member and former chair of the Marin Humane Advocacy Committee, member and trainer of the CalAnimals Training Committee, Advisory Member of the Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance, and co-founder of the Marin County Hoarding Alliance Taskforce. Cindy was also pivotal in creating a non-lethal predator control model in collaboration with Marin's Agricultural Commission and Project Coyote, which remains in use today.

Mr. Speaker, I have personally witnessed Cindy in action and can attest to her knowledge, skills, and commitment to animal welfare. As Cindy Machado retires after 40 years of service, she leaves an indelible legacy of good deeds for animals in Marin County and the extended region. I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing heartfelt gratitude to Cindy for her generosity of spirit, innumerable achievements and in sending her best wishes on her next endeavors.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024:
HONORING XAVIER DAVIS**

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to shine a light on the incredible accomplishments of a member of the Michigan State University jazz community: Associate Professor of Jazz Piano, Xavier Davis.

It was 1994 and Xavier Davis, then a college student from Grand Rapids, Michigan, was performing with a small ensemble at a convention in Boston when his tunes caught the ear of the legendary jazz vocalist Betty Carter, a native of Flint. Carter scooped him up and brought him to New York, hiring him to work exclusively as the pianist for her jazz trio.

Davis spent many years in New York, cultivating his talent, learning from and playing with some of the greatest names in jazz, including Carl Allen, James Williams, Billy Hart,

Regina Carter, and Wynton Marsalis. He served as musical director for the Boy's Choir of Harlem during its 1999–2000 season, played keyboard for the television series "Cosby," and has been featured on more than 50 albums, including a Grammy-winning collaboration with Christian McBride in 2012.

We're so fortunate that after six years of teaching at the famed Juilliard School, Davis brought his talents back home and has been teaching jazz piano at Michigan State University since 2014.

In addition to the many students who have benefited from his instruction, Davis has also dedicated himself to uplifting his adopted hometown of Detroit through his music.

Supported by a grant from Michigan State University's Humanities and Arts Research Program, Davis began composing music about Detroit, which eventually became a powerful album titled "Rise Up Detroit." Through his music, Davis focuses on the role Detroit has played on the lives of African-Americans and on the world at large, highlighting the Underground Railroad, the Great Migration, and the boom days of the auto industry.

Professor Davis is a gifted composer, arranger, and producer of music, and widely recognized as one of the most accomplished jazz pianists in the world. He is also a proud Michigander, continually giving back to the community and the state that put the music in his soul.

While he is the recording artist, it is my distinct pleasure to record his accomplishments and convey my gratitude for his contributions here.

HONORING JIM KENNEDY

HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Jim Kennedy as we celebrate the dedication of the Jim Kennedy Village Green at the Contra Costa Center—Pleasant Hill BART Transit Village.

Jim was born in Montana and grew up in North Dakota before moving to Davis, CA in the 1960s. He received his bachelor's and a master's degree in Economics/Environmental Economics from San Diego State University. Jim served as Contra Costa County's Redevelopment Director for 35 years where he spearheaded efforts to improve traffic congestion and quality of life throughout the region until his retirement in 2011.

Jim has worked tirelessly to implement transit-oriented development at the Pleasant Hill BART Station Area. Jim led efforts to develop office spaces, high density residential spaces, and initiate improvements to greenspaces and trails. This effort supports many quality jobs and features affordable housing units and convenient retail shops along the 680 Corridor. The high-quality housing in proximity to recreation and transit also attracts workers from

San Francisco and other job centers along the BART line. Jim played a vital role in overseeing this project and helping to achieve this goal.

Jim is an active member of the community, having formerly served as President, Executive Director, and Board Member of the California Redevelopment Association. He also served on the board of the Kennedy-King Memorial Scholarship Fund from 1987 to 2023 and currently serves on the Eden Housing Board of Directors (2013–Present). He is also a founding Co-Executive Director of the Pleasant Hill BART Leasing Authority.

The Village Green—the connection between the Iron Horse Trail and the Town Square/Fare gates of the BART station—will be named the "Jim Kennedy Village Green" in honor of Jim's critical work. This is a fitting tribute to his vision and hard work.

Please join me in recognizing Jim for his many contributions to our community and devoted service to Contra Costa County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, on February 5, 2024, I was unable to cast my vote on H.R. 443—Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 33.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024: HONORING RODNEY WHITAKER

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a member of the Michigan State University faculty who has contributed to the rich artistic landscape of our great state and helped shape the next generation of musical talents, all set to a distinctive jazz beat.

As a young recording artist in Detroit, Rodney Whitaker likely never imagined he would one day build and lead one of the most distinguished jazz degree programs and performing faculties in the world. But the legendary bassist, known for his distinctive "bear-sized" tones, today serves as Director of Jazz Studies at MSU, a program he has transformed into a world class training ground whose students have gone on to perform alongside some of the top jazz artists in the world.

It's a case of those who CAN do, teach, as Whitaker himself spent seven years as bassist with Wynton Marsalis' Septet and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, followed by a quarter-century touring around the world, collaborating and performing with legendary jazz artists from Dizzy Gillespie to Diana Krall. And he

continues to teach master classes at universities around the world, all while serving as artistic director of the Michigan State University Professors of Jazz, the East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, the Dr. Phillips Center Jazz Orchestra in Orlando, Florida, and the Gathering Orchestra in Detroit, to name a few of his many involvements.

He has earned one of the highest distinctions in academia, the title of University Distinguished Professor, and he is proud to serve as a special assistant to the dean's office, directing the College of Music's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging efforts. In 2006, he was nominated for the Juno Award, Canada's equivalent to the Grammy, and in 2011, he received an Emmy nomination. Just last year he was named 2023 Detroit Jazz Hero by the Jazz Journalists Association.

But strip away all the titles, all the awards, and Whitaker is simply a man who understands the power of the gift he has been given, and the necessity to pass it on. In his own words, Dr. Rodney Whitaker said, quote: "That is my truth. I love passing on the knowledge of the history of music, and it's life-changing to see that lightbulb go off in someone. It certainly changed my life."

For all the lives he has enriched, changed, and set to music, I ask that his contributions forever be remembered.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Water Resources Development Act, focusing on USACE water infrastructure projects, programs and priorities.

SD-406

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S427–S461

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3744–3766, and S.J. Res. 61. **Pages S442–43**

Measures Considered:

RELIEVE Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program. **Pages S427–38**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 49 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 39), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S427–38**

By 58 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 40), Senate agreed to the motion to reconsider the failed vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S438**

The motion to reconsider the failed vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill made on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, was rendered moot. **Page S438**

Senate agreed to the motion to recess until 12:00 noon, on Thursday, February 8, 2024. **Page S461**

Message from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–37) **Pages S440–41**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was

originally declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, with respect to Burma; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–38) **Page S441**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Ernest Gonzalez, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

Leon Schydlower, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

Page S461

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Leon Schydlower, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, which was sent to the Senate on January 10, 2024

Ernest Gonzalez, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, which was sent to the Senate on January 10, 2024

Page S461

Messages from the House:

Page S441

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Page S441

Executive Communications:

Pages S441–42

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S443–44

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S444–45

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S445–61

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—40) **Page S438**

Recess: Senate convened at 12 noon and recessed at 7:17 p.m., until 12 noon on Thursday, February 8, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S461.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 41 public bills, H.R. 7265–7305; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 113–114; and H. Res. 1002–1004 were introduced.

Pages H534–36

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H538

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 6009, to require the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to withdraw the proposed rule relating to fluid mineral leases and leasing process, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–376).

Page H534

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Meuser to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H507

Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act: The House passed H.R. 485, to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs, by a recorded vote of 211 ayes to 208 noes, Roll No. 40.

Pages H509–19

Rejected the Fletcher motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce by a yea-and-nay vote of 207 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 39.

Page H518

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–374 accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole.

Pages H515–16

Agreed to:

Molinaro amendment (No. 1 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–374) that requires a study on how the quality-adjusted life year measure negatively impacts individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their access to care.

Pages H516–18

H. Res. 996, the rule providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 863) and the bill (H.R. 485) was agreed to yesterday, February 6th.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, February 5th:

Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act: H.R. 3415, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Midvale Irrigation District the Pilot Butte Power Plant in the State of Wyoming.

Page H519

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 9th, and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday, February 13th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H519

Presidential Messages:

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, is to continue in effect beyond February 11, 2024—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–105).

Page H533

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to situation in and in relation to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021 is to continue in effect beyond February 10, 2024—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–106).

Page H533

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H518 and H519.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE STATE OF DOD HOUSING AND AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “The State of DoD Housing and Aging Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from Brendan Owens, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Installations, Energy and Environment, Department of Defense; Rachel Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Department of the Army; Meredith Berger, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations, Energy and Environment, Department of the Navy; and Ravi Chaudhary, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Energy and Environment, Department of the Air Force.

**AMERICAN CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS:
CONFRONTING ZUCKERBUCKS, PRIVATE
FUNDING OF ELECTION ADMINISTRATION**

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “American Confidence in Elections: Confronting Zuckerbucks, Private Funding of Election Administration”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**ADVANCING AMERICA’S INTERESTS AT
THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION’S
13TH MINISTERIAL MEETING**

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing entitled “Advancing America’s Interests at the World Trade Organization’s 13th Ministerial Meeting”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Financial Stability Oversight Council Annual Report to Congress, 9 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 1939, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the administration’s pause on liquefied natural gas (LNG) export approvals and the Department of Energy’s process for assessing LNG export applications, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine Artificial Intelligence and Health Care, focusing on promise and pitfalls, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dafna Hochman Rand, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Donna Ann Welton, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, and Stephan A. Lang, of Virginia, to be U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, with the rank of Ambassador, all of the Department of State, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the cost of prescription drugs, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 2385, to provide access to reliable, clean, and drinkable water on Tribal lands, S. 2868, to accept the request to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota at the request of that Community, S. 3022, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow Indian Health Service scholarship and loan recipients to fulfill service obligations through half-time clinical practice, S. 2796, to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and S. 3230, to transfer administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands from the Army Corps of Engineers to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to take such lands into trust for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, 10:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Amir H. Ali, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Melissa R. DuBose, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Sunil R. Harjani, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Robert J. White, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Jasmine Hyejung Yoon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, 10 a.m., SD-226.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Thursday, February 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 815, RELIEVE Act (the legislative vehicle for the National Security Supplemental), with a vote expected on the motion to invoke cloture thereon.

Additional votes are possible during Thursday's session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, February 9

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.

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